

FBIS

DAILY REPORT

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AGREEMENT REACHED WITH IMF ON FOREIGN DEBT

PY252207 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2139 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Text] Washington, 25 Sep (EFE) -- Argentina and the IMF today reached an agreement on the negotiations over Argentina's foreign debt. Economy Minister Bernardo Grinspun today announced that Argentina and the IMF have agreed on a technical memorandum of understanding. The announcement was made during a speech that the minister delivered to the joint annual meeting of the IMF and the World Bank.

Alfonsin Comments

PY260304 Buenos Aires Argentina Televisora Color Network in Spanish 0124 GMT 26 Sep 84

[President Raul Alfonsin interviewed on "30 Millones" by Roberto Maidano and Monica Mihanovich in his suite in the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York -- live]

[Text] [Maidana] Today has been another busy day here, the next to the last day of Alfonsin's stay in New York to visit the United Nations. We are privileged to have the president here to answer some questions.

[Mihanovich] A few moments ago we heard an unofficial report about the meeting between our economy minister and Jacques de Larosiere. Mr President, we would very much like you to confirm this report for us.

[Alfonsin] Certainly, why not, Monica and Roberto. I believe this is good news for all of us. An agreement has finally been reached with the IMF. This announcement was made by Minister Grinspun in the meeting with the IMF. He told me about it on the phone. I am well aware of the harmful effects of the delay in solving this problem, but I believe it was worthwhile to wait because had we accepted the conditions before, we really would have had greater problems. Fortunately, I feel this is good news for the country, although we cannot say that everything has been resolved. A new stage now begins; it will represent a new effort, but we have made considerable progress and we are in a position to move ahead.

[Maidana] Of course the final approval by the IMF is still needed, but technically speaking the recommendation of IMF Director Larosiere has been reached.

[Alfonsin] Certainly, the recommendation has been reached. There should be no problem; if there is it will be the first time. There will be no problem; it has never happened. But of course we should also keep in mind the need to negotiate with the banks and the Paris Club. I hope we will soon be able to do those two things.

[Mihanovich] I would like to say that today, Tuesday, 25 September, is when the first step toward the opening we have been searching for began.

[Alfonsin] Certainly, there is no doubt that it is something really important.

[Maidana] Mr President, is it true you are having lunch with private bankers tomorrow?

[Alfonsin] Yes, and we are also going to hold other meetings. We are going to try to explain our situation. We want to fulfill our commitments, and because we want to do this, we want to work and we want to export.

[Mihanovich] In his speech, President Reagan talked about this, saying that it was important to put an end to the barriers to imports and exports. Was this a mere formality?

[Alfonsin] No, he took two measures that can be important. One of them, important even for our country, has to do with steel and the other relates to copper, a very important issue for Peru and Chile. We want to get our products into this market, and this is why we need to continue meeting in Latin America to strengthen our position, not for the purpose of creating any kind of confrontation. This is not a confrontation; the idea is to explain what is happening and to have a position of strength which will prevent any type of discrimination in foreign trade. Yesterday we talked about this during the conversation with the President and Treasury Secretary Donald Regan, who acknowledged the need for dialogue with the Latin American countries.

[Maidana] Mr President, if you do not have anything else on this subject, there are some questions left from the previous interview when you were planning to meet with the Israeli foreign minister. We would like you to comment on your meetings today.

[Alfonsin] Yes, I met with the Israeli foreign minister. I also met with the prime minister of New Zealand. During the two meetings we discussed the need to strengthen our relations and activate our bilateral commissions.

[Mihanovich] Mr President, do you have any time for your private life?

[Alfonsin] Yes, I plan to have dinner with my daughter tonight.

[Maidana] Thank you, Mr President.

PRESIDENT ADDRESSES AREA REGIONAL GROUP

PY260150 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0001 GMT 26 Sep 84

[By special correspondent]

[Text] New York, 25 Sep (TELAM) -- Addressing the delegates of the 32 member countries of the Latin American Regional Group (GRULA) today, President Raul Alfonsin maintained that current realities, which are characterized by a very serious global crisis that especially affects the developing world, are also telling us which path to take to achieve common action that is imbued with a willingness for peace and which is directed at reestablishing mutual confidence and solidarity among all the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean.

Alfonsin visited GRULA's headquarters, which is located in the UN building, just after 1700 New York time, where he was met by its president, Peruvian Foreign Minister Javier Arias Stella. The following is the text of the president's speech:

"Mr President: First, I wish to greet you in your role as president of GRULA and as the permanent representative of Peru, a country with which we have solid ties of friendship and fraternity. I also especially wish to express my thanks for having been received this afternoon by the GRULA, and through it I address a special message of greetings to the brother peoples and governments of Latin America and the Caribbean. At the same time, I express my sincere acknowledgment of the presence at this meeting of the regional groups and of the representative of the illustrious president of the Nonaligned Movement and prime minister of India, Mrs Indira Gandhi, and of the president of the Group of 77.

"My trip, in the opinion of the Argentine Government, is a memorable circumstance that will allow me to expound before the international community, especially the nations of our region, the principles and the essential outline of Argentina's foreign policy since I assumed the presidency of my nation on 10 December 1983.

"If you will allow me to make a brief summary in this respect, I would like to say that Argentina's international activities are based essentially on the principles of equality, nonintervention, sovereignty and the territorial integrity of nations, self-determination nondiscrimination, and the peaceful solution of international controversies. These are the same principles that are contained in the UN Charter.

"We have clearly asserted that there will not be real and stable possibilities for economic, social, and cultural development if we do not strengthen our ties with the developing nations and especially with Latin America and the Caribbean within a framework of integration and cooperation in accordance with the basic interests of each country and of the region as a whole. Doing otherwise would be to deny our history and current reality, because the Argentine Republic was born as an independent nation after waging a war for self-determination against the colonialism of that time. This struggle for freedom and progress was taken beyond our borders. Success was only possible because it coincided with the identical efforts of the other peoples of Latin America. My country's struggle was not a singular action. It was part of a regional struggle to set the common basis for justice, peace, and material, social, and cultural progress.

"The current realities, which are characterized by an overall, profound crisis that especially affects the developing countries, is showing us the path for common action based on a political will aimed at establishing or reestablishing mutual confidence and solidarity among all the nations of Latin America and the Caribbean. In this regard, the Argentine Republic is willing to provide its profound cooperation and efforts.

"We will not act with a narrow rhetorical criterion. On the contrary, we are fully willing to progress down the path of regional cooperation by respecting the principles of international ethics and our main interests with a sense of realism and in accordance with a responsible and rational policy. This is how we think the solid and permanent basis for fruitful bilateral and multilateral cooperation can be achieved.

"Our foreign policy, the same as our domestic government actions, is based on perseverance, humility, imagination, and good faith. It is based on perseverance because continuous efforts are indispensable to attain the proposed objectives; on humility because the Argentine nation respects the history and the economic and political situation of each country; on imagination because we are anxious to join the modern trends of universal thought, science, and technology to eradicate all forms of ideological, political, economic, and cultural domination; and on good faith because we are convinced that the international system cannot be based on any other principle than on sincere and just compliance with commitments that have been undertaken.

"The contemporary world no longer accepts erroneous actions and interpretations that violate international principles and laws by maintaining policies of intervention, domination, occupation, and establishment and maintenance of zones of influence and of military and strategic security. The real democratic system that we support and desire for all societies requires a world organization based on democratic principles, mutual confidence, interdependence, cooperation, and political and ideological pluralism.

"Mr President, Argentina, as a part of Latin America, totally identifies with the positions and main interests of the region, which are the same as those of all other developing countries. We are thus being faithful to the work entrusted to us by our forefathers. This is the only way for us to respond to the repeated expressions of solidarity by brotherly nations and to the challenges we have to face.

"In order for this solidarity to materialize, we are taking concrete steps toward Latin America's integration both by securing peace in the region through the solution of regional conflicts, such as our dispute with the Republic of China which is about to be resolved within the framework of the mediation of His Holiness John Paul II, and by undertaking joint integration actions.

"We are today seriously concerned with the violence, lack of Justice [words indistinct] that is being experienced in Central America. My country has decidedly supported the task that is being carried out by the Contadora Group, which is a true Latin American answer directed at achieving a just, peaceful, and definitive solution to the existing crisis. Efforts must be redoubled, but they will not be fruitful if the structural, economic, political, and social reasons for the current situation are not understood. Neither will these efforts bear fruit if the countries involved do not have the desire for rapprochement and for carrying out bilateral and multilateral negotiations on the basis of true respect for the principles of nonintervention, sovereignty, and territorial integrity, of not using force or the threat of force, of ideological pluralism, of the peaceful solution to controversies, and of economic development.

"No solutions imposed from outside the region are just and lasting. Peace and justice must be restored in Central America mainly by the Central American peoples with the cooperation of all the remaining friendly Latin American nations. This is a challenge that for the present and the future of our region, we can neither avoid nor ignore.

"It is indispensable to eradicate all colonial vestiges and all other foreign domination in Latin America. Argentina has always received support from the region to recover its sovereignty over the Malvinas Islands. This Latin American cause has also received support and understanding from most of the international community. Once again I reiterate our deep gratitude for the Latin American solidarity with Argentina because it is indispensable for the success of our unwavering struggle to recover the Malvinas Islands.

"Mr President, the international economic situation, which is seriously affecting the developing nations, also requires joint efforts by all the Latin American and Caribbean nations. Obviously, the economic crisis not only affects the standard of living and the development possibilities of our peoples but also the stability of the international economic system. The large and burdensome foreign debts of developing countries, the protectionist measures adopted by developed countries, the deterioration of trade conditions, the worldwide high unemployment level, the drop in the income levels of developing countries, and the recession in a large number of industrialized countries foretell an overall structural crisis that will be impossible to resolve without the participation of all societies and governments.

"The agreements reached by only a small number of countries that seek overall economic improvements but which ignore the majority of countries or which are detrimental to them are unjust and temporary.

"Within the regional framework, we have already taken a step forward in the search for joint actions and positions by constituting a mechanism of consultation and followup to the Consensus of Cartagena. The latest Consensus of Cartagena ministerial meeting was held in my country, in the city of Mar del Plata, from 13 to 14 September. This collective work must be continued and increased.

"The concrete results of this collective work will not be immediate, but undoubtedly we will gradually increase the people's understanding and the moral and political legitimacy of our cause, which seeks to increase the real autonomy and independence of our countries and their level of economic and social well-being.

"Mr President, the joint actions that all the countries represented in this organization must undertake with real willingness and conviction are indispensable but not sufficient. Asia and Africa essentially have the same concerns and interests as Latin America. We must extend the political and economic cooperation process to these regions that are still seriously suffering the effects of underdevelopment, colonialism, and various forms of foreign domination. In this regard, it is worthwhile to point out the contributions made by the Nonaligned Movement and by the Group of 77.

"The contemporary world has been described as universal because of the development of communications, science, and technology. The truth is that it will be really authentic and universal only if unity and understanding among the peoples is sincere, fruitful, and permanent.

"Mr President, I do not want to conclude my address without expressing my thanks for the attention given me by this distinguished audience and without reiterating once again that Argentina, in keeping with its noble historic tradition, pledges to support as much as possible the creation of an international society based on democracy, peace, effective respect for human rights, and the economic and social progress of humanity. Thank you very much."

MILITARY COUNCIL JUSTIFIES JUNTAS' ACTIONS

PY252357 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1445 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 25 Sep (NA) -- The Armed Forces Supreme Council this morning officially reported that "beyond doubt it will not be able to hand down sentences" before the previously established deadline in the trials of the members of the first three military juntas of the military process and of General Ramon Camps, retired. The Supreme Council has also questioned the validity of the charges and justified the instructions and orders given to implement the antisubversive repression.

In a note submitted to the National Federal Criminal Appellate Court this morning, the Supreme Council pointed out that it "will not obtain the necessary evidence to make a just decision before the previously established deadline." The 90-day deadline established by the Federal Court will expire in 17 days. It was established through a resolution issued on 11 July 1984 and later confirmed on 22 August.

The note issued by the Supreme Council is the first military court document that has unequivocally and categorically justified the rules for the implementation of the anti-subversive war, whose doctrine has been repeatedly and strongly condemned by President Raul Alfonsin. "It should be pointed out," the Supreme Council note says, "that on the basis of the studies undertaken to date, the decrees, instructions, orders to act, and so forth, through which the military antiterrorist action was implemented, are unquestionable from the viewpoint of form and substance." Therefore, the note continues, the former commanders and the former Buenos Aires police chief "could only be indirectly charged with failing to establish appropriate, opportune, and efficient control measures to prevent, frustrate, or condemn the crimes that may have been committed."

The Supreme Council note warns that "since the trials have been essentially based on the charges leveled by persons involved in the reported actions, or by their relatives, the impartiality and credibility of such charges are of relative value."

"The possibility that those who leveled the charges may have previously reached an agreement, either spontaneously or under the influence of third parties, cannot be ruled out, because some coincidences in style and content have aroused suspicion," the note adds. The Supreme Council document recognizes that "obviously such a supposition cannot be easily proven, but it is a good reason to be cautious in order to avoid unjust decisions on the basis of an incorrect evaluation of the evidence."

After reiterating that the Supreme Council will not be able to issue a verdict before the previously established deadline, the note stresses that "without a complete picture of the situation in the light of tangible evidence, the Supreme Council will not be able to arrive at a conclusion based on truth."

Neither will it be able "to properly ponder the responsibility of those who acted or could have acted out of motivations that they identified with the struggle against the subversive and terrorist criminals who ravaged our fatherland" the note remarks.

The note of the highest military court also stresses that the sentences must be handed out "without losing sight of the concept of 'discipline,' a juridical value that underlies the foundation of military institutions and that, in the end, justifies the existence of military courts."

The note, a little more than 5 pages in length, includes an annex in which the military court explains that there are 210 different trials underway, and that there are 436 cases reported by the Defense Ministry and the National Commission for the Disappearance of Persons, Conadep. The 436 cases are said to be "under study." The argumentation included in the military court note deals mainly with the cases brought to trial under Decrees 158-83 and 280-84 signed by President Raul Alfonsin. The cases affect the members of the first three military juntas of the de facto government and Gen Ramon Camps, retired, the former Buenos Aires police chief. In this regard, the note points out that "it would be inappropriate to make an isolated evaluation of the activities of the court," and remarks that "it is impossible to simultaneously hear approximately 210 different cases at a rate satisfactory for each one of them."

The Supreme Council note recalls that the prosecution of the former commanders in chief was decreed on charges that they were "allegedly indirectly responsible for various crimes. Therefore, they could not be legitimately sentenced if the number and nature of the crimes committed by those who are directly responsible are not previously established." As an example, the note points out that "the illegal deprivation of freedom is a crime that is committed when an authority that is legally empowered to arrest detains a person who has not broken the law. Now if the person has broken the law, it is obvious that the deprivation of his freedom cannot be illegitimate."

The note adds that "in most of the cases, the actions that may have caused the arrests have not been mentioned, have been said to be unknown, or have superficially been linked with the political or ideological position of the detainees, trying obviously, to avoid any penal responsibility."

"Nevertheless," the Supreme Council note remarks, "in many cases the police reports attached to the imprisonment resolutions reveal that the arrests that have been reported as illegal have affected persons allegedly involved in serious crimes classified in the Penal Code or in Laws 20840, 21264, 21268, and 21272, which were in force at that time." "Therefore," the note adds, "there are serious doubts about fundamental aspects that must be clarified in order to issue a verdict in keeping with the law."

The Supreme Council note also refers to the cases brought against the military men responsible for the Malvinas war, and warns that "the magnitude of the evidence requested by the attorney general and by the defense attorneys is such that, given the nature of this case, there will be considerable delay."

Concerning the cases against Videla, Massera, Agosti, Viola, Lambruschini, Graffigna, Galtieri, Anaya, Lami Dozo, and Camps, the only cases whose deadlines have already expired in keeping with the terms of Law 23049, which amended the military code, the Supreme Council note lists 25 legal measures that have been taken. The annex attached to the note details the cases being heard by the Supreme Council in connection with the excesses during the antisubversive war. The documents on the various cases make up more than 94,000 pages.

As for the number of cases, the note explains that 634 have been brought to the court, 400 by the Defense Ministry and 233 by the Conadep. Of this total, 200 cases are being heard, 26 persons who leveled charges failed to show up when summoned by the Supreme Council, and the other cases are "under study." [figures as received]

Court To Request Files

PY251940 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1653 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 25 Sep (TELAM) -- The Federal Court of Criminal and Correctional Appeals today decided to ask the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces for the files on the legal actions against the members of the three former military juntas, and also against General Ramos Camps, retired, Vice Admiral Ruben Chamorro, retired, and others, for alleged excesses committed during the antisubversive war. It was reported at the courts that the principal aim of this measure is to study all the documents, and according to the status of each case, to then decide if the court will grant an extension of the term for the Supreme Council to continue with the legal processes until it arrives at sentences, or if the Court of Appeals itself will try the cases.

CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES APPROVES DRAFT BUDGET

PY251435 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1005 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 25 Sep (TELAM) -- The Chamber of Deputies today approved, in general, the 1984 draft budget bill with the support of the Radicals, the Peronists, the Intransigents, the Christian Democrats, and the provincial blocs, while Corrientes Province Liberal Ricardo Balestra and centrist Alvaro Alsogaray voiced their total opposition. After a consensus was reached early this morning, the Chamber of Deputies called a recess until 1500 when it will resume its sessions to review item by item the estimate of government expenditures in a discussion where most opposition blocs are expected to voice disagreement on specific matters.

The debate started last night at 2120 with a 6-hour delay due to a dispute that originated within the Peronist bloc. The dispute centered on whether or not it was appropriate that the draft budget bill, in general, be approved by the second largest minority.

The draft bill, which the executive branch submitted to the Congress 3 months ago, was sponsored by Radical Carlos Vidal, who acted as sponsor for the ruling party bloc. Vidal denied that the draft bill had been drafted under IMF dictates. Vidal concurred that some objectives that were proposed by the Radical Party has been reallocated in the draft bill due to the very serious situation inherited, but stressed the goal of achieving a real growth of salaries ranging from 6 to 8 percent. On the other hand, Vidal announced the creation of a bicameral commission that is to draft a reform of the tax system within 6 months and stated that in 1985 the government will draft a new law on cooperation between the federal and provincial governments.

JUSTICIALISTS AGREE TO ESTABLISH NEW FACTION

PY232104 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 23 Sep 84 p 17

[Text] (NA) -- The majority of members of the National Justicialist Council and the Justicialist High Command recently agreed to advocate a new party faction in Buenos Aires Province in order to put up strong opposition to Herminio Iglesias, "who is winning too much space within the party," Peronist sources said. The decision was reportedly made by party vice president and metal workers' chieftain Lorenzo Miguel, Lower House Justicialist bloc leader Diego Ibanez, High Command President Pedro Arrighi, Rodolfo Ponce, Eduardo Setti, Antonio Cafiero, and Juan Labake, among others. As a result, Iglesias recently broke a party pact aimed at a gradual modification of the current national council, to be finally replaced with one presided over by Pedro Arrighi, a man close to former President Maria Estela Martinez de Peron, who would replace Miguel in his party post, the sources said.

Other recent moves by Iglesias' men, interpreted by the sources as retaliatory measures, included Deputy Norberto Imbelloni's proposal Friday that the Chamber of Deputies ask for a Central Bank report on the Santurce Bank, of which Setti is president. The move is reportedly aimed at showing that the bank has recently received undue support from the government. Imbelloni and about 25 other deputies from Buenos Aires, also close to Iglesias, are reportedly looking for ways to block the 1984 budget bill. A showdown is expected in Buenos Aires on October 6, the date of a provincial convention called by Iglesias to reassert his leadership.

Iglesias Refutes Charges

PY260019 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 25 Sep 84 p 11

[Text] (NA) -- Herminio Iglesias, chairman of the Buenos Aires Province branch of the Justicialist Party, yesterday stated the electoral front between his supporters and the Movement for Integration and Development (MID) is "neither right wing nor left wing." The former Buenos Aires gubernatorial candidate refuted charges made over the weekend by some 120 party delegates who met to demand a leadership change and to accuse Iglesias of moving too far right. "If the front we propose is reactionary and right then so was the one formed by General Juan Domingo Peron," Iglesias said.

RESEARCH GROUP CRITICAL OF ECONOMIC POLICY

PY232126 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 22 Sep 84 p 3

[Text] (NA-DYN) -- "The growing inconsistencies between government estimates and reality have violated not only inflation (control) goals but also other important objectives, such as the recovery of wages and utility and exchange rates," according to the latest issue of CONYUNTURA Y DESARROLLO, the monthly magazine published by the Development Research Foundation (FIDE). "Attempts to correct those three phenomena have in turn done nothing but refuel the inflationary process," it added. The report acknowledged that the inflationary trend was "inherited" from the former military regime, but pointed out that the Radical administration "made no substantial changes" in existing economic policies, and a "worsening" of the situation "was to be expected."

The current policy of setting beforehand a 16 percent increase in wages, rates, and prices for this month, together with "the attempt to enforce sharp monetary restrictions" has produced "unwanted effects," the magazine said. "Many of these unexpected effects... pose many questions regarding the short-term programme." Some of these "effects" were that private banks did not visibly restrict credit to their clients, and "free" market interest rates were guided by private inflation estimates of 22.8 percent for September. The black market dollar rate did not fall significantly, the magazine pointed out, and there has been "important" growth in the prices "not only of meat products, but also other goods, most of whose prices have supposedly been frozen."

SILES CHARGES 'DESTABILIZING' MOVES AGAINST GOVERNMENT

PY251345 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0038 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Text] Santa Cruz, Bolivia, 24 Sep (EFE) -- Bolivian President Hernan Siles Zuazo today denounced the existence of "destabilizing moves against the government" by some sectors of the national Congress. During a political rally held in Santa Cruz, Bolivia's second largest city, President Siles Zuazo stated that those actions "also place in serious jeopardy the institutional stability of the legislative branch."

Siles Zuazo emphasized his conviction that his government maintains the decision to serve its constitutional term until 1986, responding to the demands voiced by rightist political sectors, led by the Nationalist Democratic Action (ADN), which are asking that new elections be held now.

The Bolivian chief of state added that his regime is open to an agreement with the parliamentary opposition to strengthen the democratic process.

Parliamentary sectors voiced their intention to file a suit for damages against Siles Zuazo and his government, charging them with "breaking the laws by authorizing Siles' assistants to hold meetings with Roberto Suarez, the largest cocaine trafficker in Bolivia."

The government has dubbed such accusations as "part of a plan to destabilize the democratic process and create the conditions for a military coup d'etat."

ADN, a political organization led by former President Hugo Banzer Suarez (1971-1978), which placed third in the general elections held in 1980, demanded that Siles Zuazo immediately call new general elections. Banzer explained that his petition is "aimed at guaranteeing the continuation of a democracy that is in jeopardy."

ADN congressmen charged the Siles regime with contributing to the destabilization of the state of law "because of the corruption of its officials."

The possibility of a suit for damages against Siles Zuazo has been labeled by the authorities as "unconstitutional" since a president can only be tried in cases of "treason against the fatherland, violation of human rights, and embezzlement of government funds."

Chamber Deputy Denies Allegation

PY252050 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1700 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Excerpt] MNR Nationalist Revolutionary Movement [MNR] Deputy Jaime Villegas Duran does not accept the charges that President Hernan Siles Zuazo publicly made in the past few hours that destabilizing efforts are being made in Congress against the current democratic government. In this regard, Jaime Villegas Duran, who is also a member of the Directorate of the Chamber of Deputies, said the following:

[Begin Villegas recording] In this regard, I must clearly state...[Villegas changes remarks] Of course, with all the respect that the president of the republic deserves, I must state that in my position as a national congressman I cannot accept such a charge, a charge that comes from no less than the chief executive. There is not a single national deputy nor a national senator in Congress who is planning to destabilize the democratic process. In my opinion, the only one who is destabilizing this process, which has [words indistinct] the Bolivian people, is precisely the executive branch. [end recording]

PRESIDENT FIGUEIREDO GRANTS PRESS INTERVIEW

PY242329 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 23 Sep 84 p 3

[President Joao Figueiredo press interview at Iatapecerica da Serra, Sao Paulo State, on 21 September]

[Text] [Question] Do you feel fulfilled by all you have done so far?

[Answer] Fulfilled, no, because I was not lucky in the economic area. The international economic situation did not allow me to have the success I expected. I feel fulfilled in the political area.

[Question] Are you happy with the economic recovery?

[Answer] There is no doubt about that. We are on the right track, on the road to economic recovery.

[Question] What are the prospects for economic recovery?

[Answer] They will not develop as rapidly as the people expect. They will be slow in coming, but they will come.

[Question] How long do you think they will take?

[Answer] This does not depend on us, but on the interest rates they are charging abroad. They increased 0.25 percentage points yesterday. One percentage point increase in interest rates costs us \$1 billion more. So the prospects for the incipient recovery do not depend on us, but on what they do outside Brazil.

[Question] Do you enjoy commanding the government from Sao Paulo?

[Answer] Greatly.

[Question] You said you feel fulfilled by your accomplishments in the political area. What was left undone?

[Answer] Choosing my successor, to pass the sash to my successor so that he can continue what is still to be done.

[Question] Does that mean that if the opposition wins, it will take power?

[Answer] Has the opposition ever won and been denied that victory? Have I ever failed to fulfill my promise?

[Question] Regarding the succession process specifically, do you believe everything will proceed smoothly until 15 January 1985?

[Answer] I expect so. I will do my best to that effect.

[Question] Would moderation be important for the nation?

[Answer] It would, and I have spoken to that effect.

[Question] Do you believe the people understand how you intend to secure that moderation?

[Answer] I don't know whether the people understand me or not. However, the way people talk with me, I believe that some of them do understand me. Others do not, but I will get them to understand me.

[Question] Do you believe Paulo Maluf can win at the Electoral College?

[Answer] I am not a seer. I support him. He is the candidate of my party. I have said that I would support the candidate of my party. The majority of my party chose this candidate and so he is my candidate, as would have been anyone else.

[Question] When radical positions are adopted, do you get personally disgusted, both as president and as an individual?

[Answer] As president I should not, but as an individual I do get disgusted with some friends.

[Question] Brazil is resuming growth, both industry and employment are making progress. Does this anticipate a good situation for 1986?

[Answer] It does. Nothing will be done in 1985, perhaps the situation will even get worse, because economic activities always dip when the government changes. I believe it will get worse but only because of the break in the continuity of the government that will slow things down.

[Question] Mr President, did the talk you had with Henry Kissinger bring up any important items regarding the international economy?

[Answer] He is the only one who could tell. He did not tell me whether it was good or bad. He is the only one who can tell.

[Question] Did you expect the warm reception given to you by the people of Sao Paulo?

[Answer] The people of Sao Paulo have always received me well; sometimes with some boos here and there, but this is natural. I cannot force everybody to like me.

[Question] Mr President, did Kissinger talk with you about the high international interest rates? Did you send any message to President Ronald Reagan?

[Answer] I did send one. The same one I gave him before, that something should be done about the treatment of the foreign debt by the developing countries as a political question because, otherwise, I don't know what will happen.

[Question] Are you in favor of Brazil aligning itself with other Latin American countries into a debtor countries club?

[Answer] I don't know about a debtors club, because each country has its own peculiar situation. But there are common denominators that can be discussed among all the countries. I believe that the Americans are partly right when they say that each country must be treated separately, because each one is a special case, although there are points in common that can be jointly discussed. I was the first one to go to the UN General Assembly to say that we should have one voice on the points we have in common.

DEL VALLE MEETS WITH FOREIGN MINISTERS AT UN

PY251330 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Excerpt] Foreign Minister Jaime del Valle has started bilateral contacts within the United Nations, especially with South American and South Asian representatives. Minister Del Valle has already held a meeting with his Peruvian counterpart Sandro Mariategui with whom he discussed subjects related to this hemisphere. He also met with Brazilian Foreign Minister Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro and his Pakistani and Indonesian counterparts.

Last night Del Valle attended a reception hosted by Argentine President Raul Alfonsin for UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar. Today he will attend another reception hosted by Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi for Latin American representatives and a luncheon hosted by President Raul Alfonsin.

DELEGATION TO IMF MEETING PRAISES REAGAN SPEECH

PY252225 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1715 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Report by Manuela Robles from Washington]

[Excerpts] The Chilean representatives to the IMF meeting have enthusiastically acclaimed the speech delivered by U.S. President Ronald Reagan. Chilean Ambassador to Washington Hernan Felipe Errazuriz said that Reagan showed great understanding.

[Begin Errazuriz recording] President Reagan's remarks on copper restrictions were encouraging. He urged us to reduce financial costs. For Chile, his speech was [words indistinct] a good ruler, and this is evidenced by the largest growth in U.S. history since the 1950's. [end recording]

Chilean Finance Minister Luis Escobar, who today reappeared at official meetings, said the following about the U.S. President's speech:

[Begin Escobar recording] I think President Reagan's speech was very important, because he emphasized some of the primary problems that are being discussed here, such as protectionism and the increase in the capital of the World Bank and the International monetary fund. These matters are currently being discussed, and I believe that President Reagan's remark that the United States wants to support this initiative is good news. I believe that his support of these international organizations is very important for relations between the industrialized and developing countries. I feel that in the future [words indistinct]. [end recording]

However, the pleasure felt by the Chilean representatives was not shared by other delegations, who said President Reagan's speech simply reiterated basic U.S. economic principles.

AIR FORCE COMMANDER FAVORS TALKS WITH OPPOSITON

PY250302 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1734 GMT 23 Sep 84

[Excerpt] Santiago, 23 Sep (EFE) -- In statements published today, General Fernando Matthei, Air Force commander in chief and government junta member, said that he favors a dialogue with the opposition and the establishment of a timetable for the transition to democracy. He said he was willing to talk with the opposition, pointing out that "in 11 years of military government I have not yet seen even the most insignificant participation of anyone."

In an interview granted to journalist Raquel Correa and published by EL MERCURIO today, Matthei said that the government should "establish a clear timetable for the transition." Gen Matthei said he favors the functioning of a Congress in 2 or 3 years because, among other things, the junta that acts as the legislative branch "cannot exercise the control functions necessary in any government." According to the Air Force commander in chief, if the political transition is not attained "before 1989" (the year in which, according to the present Constitution, Pinochet must relinquish power), "we will destroy the Armed Forces much more efficiently than any Marxist infiltration would be able to."

After expressing his support for dialogue and negotiations, Gen Matthei said that the valid interlocutors are "the Armed Forces commanders in chief who, despite the fact that they may later go into retirement, are the current heads of the forces, enjoy internal prestige, and have all the power to negotiate." In the opinion of Matthei, the commanders in chief will establish only two conditions to engage in a dialogue: "a very clear definition in connection with communism and with issues like the right of ownership." He also said that the essential issue is "the honorable withdrawal of the Armed Forces."

Asked about the possibility that some Army members may stand trial in the future, he replied that "no commitment assumed by either government or party can prevent civilians from taking legal action against those who have allegedly disregarded their rights."

Opposition Welcomes Matthei's Statement

PY250355 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1906 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Santiago, 24 Sep (EFE) -- Christian Democratic Party President Gabriel Valdes has expressed surprise over the statement by Air Force Commander and government junta member General Fernando Matthei. What Gen Matthei said yesterday, Valdes stated, "opens up a reasonable expectation for the search of a peaceful outcome, and the fact that he said that the government should change is important."

The leader of the main opposition party welcomed Gen Matthei's statement that "he is willing to talk with everyone, that a timetable for a return to democracy is necessary, that he respects the political parties, and that he considers the proposals legitimate." However, Valdes did not agree with everything Matthei proposed, but mainly with his remark that he was very much in favor of a dialogue among the political forces, social sectors, and the Armed Forces' chiefs. Valdes concluded by saying that "the Christian Democrats welcome the opinion of Gen Matthei; we think that it is important and opportune, and hope that it represents the opinion of the entire Armed Forces."

The vice president of the Social Democrats, Rene Abeliuk, reacted very favorably to the statement by Gen Matthei, expressing his wish that "the opinion of Gen Matthei be shared by the Armed Forces which no one wants to defeat or divide, desiring only that they return in a dignified and honorable manner to the barracks where they belong."

For Juan de Dios Carmona, president of the National Democratic Agreement, a rightist party that supports the government, what Gen Matthei said "is very important and opens the only possible path to follow at this time." The president of Radical Democracy, Jaime Tormo, said that the statement by the Air Force commander is "great" because "it opens an extraordinary possibility for democracy." Javier Leturia, leader of the rightist Independent Democratic Union, referred to the Air Force commander's statement as "a demonstration of an unquestionable democratic inclination and of a realistic and appropriate understanding of how this democratization process should be conducted."

Regime Declines Comment

PY252130 Paris AFP in Spanish 1828 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Text] Santiago, 25 Sep (AFP) -- It was today officially reported that the Army, the Navy, and the Carabineros commands will not pass judgment on Air Force Commander in Chief Fernando Matthei's proposal for a dialogue between the military regime and the opposition. We cannot continue to be blind and to follow different paths, because we run the risk of leading the country to division and destruction, Matthei stated in an interview published on Sunday by the Santiago newspaper EL MERCURIO.

General Matthei's remarks caused surprise because some time ago President Augusto Pinochet Pinochet dismissed the possibility of a dialogue with the civilians because of the deepening confrontation between the military regime and the opposition.

The proscribed Marxist left considers Matthei's remarks insufficient and a siren song that could cause a division among the military officers who seek Chile's real democratization.

Socialist Party Secretary General Carlos Briones has said that as long as the government does not elaborate on Matthei's comments, they can be considered simply a factor contributing to political division.

Interior Minister Sergio Onofre Jarpa also has declined to comment on Matthei's remarks, and the other Armed Forces commanders in chief and the Carabineros commander have said that they will not discuss the remarks publicly.

MDP OFFICE IN SANTIAGO ROBBED, DOCUMENTS SEIZED

PY251440 Paris AFP in Spanish 2216 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Santiago, 24 Sep (AFP) -- The Popular Democratic Movement [MDP] today in Santiago disclosed that its offices had been broken into by a group of unidentified persons who had seized documents and other assets. The theft was discovered today, Monday, when the MDP office located in downtown Santiago was found with its doors unlocked and the furniture in disarray, according to leaders of this leftist organization. The MDP leaders added that among other things, the thieves had seized bonuses of 2 million Chilean pesos (\$20,000) that the movement intended to distribute among its partisans to finance their upcoming campaigns.

The MDP represents the proscribed Communist Party, the underground Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR), and a sector of the Socialist Party, all of which advocate the people's right to rebel against President Augusto Pinochet's military government.

UNIVERSITY CLASSES RESUME AFTER SUSPENSION

PY241830 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Primary and secondary students today returned to classes after the short holiday for Chilean independence day. Students of the Universities of Chile and Santiago also returned to classes after the suspension of activities ordered by the university rectors due to the riots which took place in these two universities. Activities at all educational levels resumed normally, and without incident.

BETANCUR 'MEDIATING' IN NICARAGUAN ELECTIONS

PA231645 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 21 Sep 84 pp 1, 2

[Text] Managua, 20 Sep (ANSA) -- Nicaraguan opposition forces said today that Colombian President Belisario Betancur is mediating to make possible the participation of the Nicaraguan Democratic Board [CDN] in the general elections.

The sources said that Betancur had presented a 3-point plan to the CDN. Apparently, this plan had been approved by the FSLN.

The plan foresees: 1. The postponement of the elections; 2. the signing of a letter by the CDN denouncing the U.S. military aggression and demanding that it stop; and 3. the compliance on the part of the FSLN with at least some of the nine basic points made by the CDN to improve electoral conditions. Evidence of the mediation by President Betancur was a telephone conversation he held with CDN leader Arturo Cruz yesterday while Cruz was being threatened by Sandinist supporters in Leon, 90 km west of Managua. In the conversation, Cruz told Betancur that the attacks he was experiencing at that moment were "a clear sign that Nicaragua is not experiencing the right electoral climate." The absence of this "right climate" was the reason the opposition claimed for not registering its candidate for the elections set for 4 November. However, there have been indications in the past few days of a probable postponement of these elections.

Although there have been no official comments about Betancur's mediation in the Nicaraguan political problem, Nicaraguan Defense Minister Humberto Ortega said on Wednesday that postponement of the election date "can be negotiated." Other sources have stated that the Sandinist government junta is analyzing the way in which it will announce to the country that the electoral process has been postponed, probably until January or February 1985. There have been no confirmations of this report.

Opposition sources said that another sign of an "opening" was a statement by U.S. roving ambassador Harry Shlaudeman, who said that "peace in Central America is near." Shlaudeman was the U.S. representative at several meetings with Nicaraguan Acting Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tinoco.

RAMIREZ PRAISES NICARAGUAN DECISION ON CONTADORA

PA251853 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Colombian Foreign Minister Augusto Ramirez Ocampo has said that the FSLN's proposal to extend the registration period for alliances and political parties for the 4 November elections is edifying. In a telephone interview with AGENCIA NUEVA NICARAGUA, ANN, the Colombian foreign minister expressed his pleasure over the communique to this effect issued here in Managua on Friday, and over the Nicaraguan Government's decision to accept and immediately sign, without modifications, the Contadora Group's revised Document for Peace and Cooperation in Central America.

In addition, Ramirez Ocampo referred to the stand adopted by certain political groups in our country on the elections, and said that the sooner the elections are held, the better. He also said that if all of the parties involved can express themselves freely, this will be a useful contribution to the democratic process prevailing in Nicaragua. The foreign minister also referred to the Contadora Document and the additional protocol which, according to Nicaragua, should be signed by the United States so that the first document can be effective.

Finally, Ramirez Ocampo said Nicaragua's position on Friday was very useful, when urging the other Central American countries to sign the document without further modifications, because demanding modifications would indefinitely extend the negotiating process.

RETIRED OFFICERS WARN AGAINST AMNESTY DANGERS

PA260050 Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Text] Bogota -- The Colombian Association of Retired Officers has warned against the danger of excesses of the truce signed by the government and armed groups, and complained that the values have been inverted since Colombian military men might be left disabled and forgotten while guerrillas might roam at will. In a communique, the association mentioned the amnesty and said that the most recent actions lead to the conclusion that the considerable number of people benefited by the amnesty joined armed groups again, and therefore, they did not change their ways. Regarding the pardon bill that the government will present to the congress shortly, the association said that there is danger in a general pardon because there is the possibility the granting of pardons without any conditions paves the way to impunity.

19 SOLDIERS, 82 GUERRILLAS KILLED SINCE TRUCE

PA251238 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0306 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Bogota, 23 Sep (EFE) -- According to a military report published by the newspaper EL TIEMPO today, 19 soldiers and 82 guerrillas have died in Colombia in armed clashes since the signing of the truce and cease-fire between the government and the country's guerrilla groups. The statistics indicate that 35 soldiers and 3 guerrillas were wounded in the 49 armed clashes that have taken place in the country since the cease-fire took effect on 30 May. The truce was first signed with the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC); on 30 August the 19 April Movement (M-19), the Popular Liberation Army (EPL), and a sector of the Workers Self-Defense (ADO) also signed the truce.

The report indicates that the largest number of casualties occurred on 11 August when guerrillas seized Yumbo in southwestern Colombia. The clash left 36 M-19 members and 6 policemen and soldiers dead. The largest number of government casualties occurred when the Army of National Liberation (ELN) attacked a police station in Betoyes, Arauca, in eastern Colombia, on 21 August. One officer and seven policemen were killed in that attack.

The report stressed that "violence has increased in some regions such as Cordoba Department (in northern Colombia), where more than 15 cattlemen have been killed during this period." The report indicated that the latest "serious" confrontation took place in Riosucio, Caldas, in central Colombia, 2 weeks ago when an EPL column "ambushed the Army. One captain, one sergeant, and five guerrillas were killed in the exchange of gunfire." The report added that while a climate of true peace has been achieved in some regions such as the middle Magdalena area, the FARC's former theater of operations, in others there has been a new outbreak of violence such as in Valle del Cauca, in southwestern Colombia, and in Antioquia, Veijo Caldas, and Cordoba in the northeast."

'DISCORD' REVEALED AT COLORADO CONVENTION

PY241915 Paris AFP in Spanish 1921 GMT 22 Sep 84

[Text] Asuncion, 22 Sep (AFP) -- Discussion on the succession of General Alfredo Stroessner still remains a taboo item in [words indistinct], however, the recent Colorado Party convention revealed discord in the heart of its political machinery, which has sustained it in power since 1954.

Bearing in mind the post-Stroessner era, the struggle for influence between the traditional and the neo-Colorados was clearly demonstrated when the Colorado Party Executive Board denied a party vice presidency to one of the neo-Colorado leaders, ignoring the fact that he was broadly supported at the convention. An opposition leader, Percio Franco, a Radical Liberal, has said that this proves that democracy does not exist among the Colorados.

Hugo Celauro, of the Liberal Party has said that the discord has become more evident in the governing party, and the struggle that is taking place in the Colorado Party Executive Board merely illustrates the struggle of persons who only think of their own position (in a post-Stroessner era), whether it be maintaining or improving their situation.

Although having the support of 339 of the 489 conventioners, Mario Abdo Benitez, General Stroessner's private secretary, did not obtain the party's third vice presidency. This post had been occupied by Juan Manuel Frutos, the son of a former Paraguayan president. He was also removed during this convention. Well-informed sources said that the old, traditional sector of the Colorado Party rejects the opportunism of Mario Abdo Benitez, as well as his recent party affiliation and his privileged position near President Stroessner.

In order to explain to AFP the philosophy with which he accepted his defeat at the election, Benitez, apart from rejecting any accusation of being ambitious, evoked his respect for the statutes and discipline of the party. He said that his greatest satisfaction was the reception received from the conventioners, who were waiting for him at the end of the convention to honor him as if he had been victorious.

The same sources reported that in fact President Stroessner was forced to use his personal authority to prevent a crisis that would have publicly changed the image of unity the Colorados wish to maintain, and that certain traditionalists had threatened and resign if Benitez was chosen. Those sources added that things could have become worse without the general's authority, thus clearly referring to the problems that will arise when the Paraguayan strong man is no longer in power.

Thanks to the support of the Colorado Party, the only party with a national structure, 72-year-old General Stroessner, in power since 1954, has been reelected for a 5-year term that will end in 1988, and which, in principle, will be his last. The traditional Colorados, spanning many generations, who oppose recently affiliated militants such as Mario Abdo Benitez, still maintain control over the Colorado Party Executive Board, and Juan Ramon Chavez, the 82-year-old Senate president, was reelected. Interior Minister Sabino Montanaro also maintained his first presidency. The other two vice presidencies were awarded to Ruben Stanley, who is replacing Foreign Relations Minister Carlos Saldivar, and Health Minister Adan Godoy Jimenez, who besides having the support of the convention also has the support of a majority of the militant Colorado youth.

Abdo Benitez Urged Calm

PY252351 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 23 Sep 84 p 8

[Colorado Party Secretary Mario Abdo Benitez interview; -- date and place not given]

[Text] "Through this newspaper I would like to convey my appreciation and gratitude to the presidents of the Colorado Party precincts and to the Colorado conventioners. I have asked them to convey my heartfelt greetings to the Colorado faithful in their respective jurisdictions. I would also like to convey to them the need for calm on a matter that is of some concern in the sense that in no way will it be allowed, for our leader, President Stroessner, surely will not permit it, that any pressure or harassment be exerted against any Colorado faithful in the country." This statement was made by the political secretary of the Colorado Party Executive Board during an interview he gave to HOY in which he discussed the recent activities within the Colorado Party.

"Therefore, remain at ease. No Colorado Party will be harassed for any reason since they fulfilled their duties by bringing the mandates of their respective Colorado Party precincts. Thus they can quietly return to their homes. There will be no harassment, because such actions have been completely overcome by the Colorado Party. Today the country is living in peace and order. The Colorado Party and its leaders must convey the necessary tranquillity to our fellow party members. You know very well that party assemblies will be held and much depends on the fact that the appointed delegates fully comply with their tasks, strictly abiding by the party statutes. And they must do so properly, respecting democracy, the democracy that the Colorado Party grants our fellow party members so that those who have merited it and are regarded to be the best choice for heading the Colorado Party precincts throughout the country win at the assemblies," Abdo Benitez said.

Further on we asked him his opinion concerning the possibility or the need to make changes in the party statutes. Abdo Benitez replied: "As has been the case in the past when party statutes were changed, I believe that now these statutes must be updated as well so that it is the convention which chooses the full and alternate members of the Colorado Party Executive Board. "This will not be the first time that this has been done, as should be the case in every democratic party. I believe that it was in 1967, if I am not mistaken, when J. Bernardino Gorostiaga was the president of the Executive Board, that during a party convention the Political Commission presented to the conventioners the list of candidates for the Executive Board. That list of candidates was changed by the conventioners. Those changes were almost unanimously approved. In other words, some 20 to 30 conventioners may have disagreed but an overwhelming majority voted for the changes. Therefore, the changes were approved and implemented."

"It must be taken into account," Abdo Benitez continued, "that the conventioners are the ones who represent the grassroots. What they decide or what they bring as a mandate must be decided or complied with during a convention, because this is the highest party authority. In this way they can make changes, introduce names, and include those who have won merit through party activities." Abdo Benitez said: The delegates to the convention are the ones who should elect their officials. This is how the party members felt. They said: "We are delegates to the convention and the convention is the highest authority of the Colorado Party, and why can we only elect the members of the party Executive Board and not also vote on the positions to which they will be appointed?" He added: "I believe this is what the party members want and it is a justified wish. Whether this is done will depend a great deal on the next convention, or if a special convention is held to change the statute of the Colorado Party. On other occasions, I have said that no one owns the party because we must all work for the doctrine and ideological principles of the Colorado Party, the party founded by General Bernardino Caballero, to cooperate and work with patriotism beside our only leader General Alfredo Stroessner."

We then discussed his future activities within the party, emphasizing what he has already done and what remains to be done. Mario Abdo Benitez said: "I do not believe I have completely fulfilled my dreams despite the applause and recognition I received during the last convention. The convention gave me great satisfaction, perhaps the greatest satisfaction in my entire political life. Those who have encouraged me to never disregard my obligations are encouraging me to work harder. The party members can rest assured that I will continue to work with greater dedication, listening to their concerns in order to be able to satisfy their wishes."

Asked about the reasons for the massive support he received at the convention and the factors that contributed to this support, Mario Abdo Benitez said: "First of all, I believe that this is a recognition of my work with my party members both in the capital and in the interior of the country. I am working all the time, even on weekends. Usually I do not stay in the capital, I go instead to where my fellow party members are to familiarize myself with their concerns and wishes and to encourage them with faith and optimism. I take this opportunity to convey to them some aspects of the work our leader President Stroessner is doing as head of the government, the things the government is doing and what it plans to do. Of course, these contacts also contribute to my being aware of their needs. This is how I learn about their concerns and I try to solve them as best I can. The problems I cannot resolve I pass on to our leader President Stroessner so that he can take the necessary measures to answer in the best possible manner the concerns of our people and party members for the benefits of their respective communities."

RADICAL LIBERAL PRESIDENT ON POLITICAL ISSUES

PY251935 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 23 Sep 84 pp 4, 5

[Radical Liberal President Percio Franco interviewed by Christian Nielsen -- date and place not given]

[Excerpts] [Nielsen] Is the Doldan-Vazquez incident over as far the party is concerned?

[Franco] Absolutely.

[Nielsen] Could Doldan's withdrawal from the leadership of the party jeopardize the party's dynamics.

[Franco] I do not think so. Radical Liberals are loyal to principles, party ideology, and program, not to men. This is not a personalized party. I believe that this is the best example of that saying: "Men depart, institutions remain."

[Nielsen] What is your opinion on the issue of overall unity of liberal parties?

[Franco] Our mandate comes from the Radical Liberal rank and file, who in our opinion constitute 90 percent of the true liberals. So the first step would be to unite the Radical Liberals. There are no ideological differences between the two Radical Liberal factions [the Radical Liberal Party and the Authentic Radical Liberal Party], though we may disagree to some extent on the methodology to be followed in dealing with the current regime. As for the other liberal factions, we would like to join forces with them also. The only thing needed for this is a change in what we could call psychological attitude.

[Nielsen] What do you mean by that?

[Franco] We participate together with these parties in the activities of both chambers of Congress. We Radical Liberals advocate the inflexible defense of national interests. We frequently see with deep sorrow that the Liberal Party, be it Celauro's or Burgos' faction, display excessive acquiescence toward the bills of the ruling party, and some of these bills are detrimental to national interests. We oppose this inflexibility. In this endeavor we do not feel supported, which makes rapprochement with those sectors extremely difficult. If one day they decide to change their complaisant attitude toward the regime, we will change our attitude toward them.

[Nielsen] There is a widespread tendency to link Paraguayan parties with compatible foreign organizations; for example, the Febrerist Revolutionary Party to the Socialist International, the Christian Democratic Party to the Christian Democratic International, and most recently the Authentic Radical Liberal Party to the Argentine ruling Radical Civic Union. Do you share this tendency?

[Franco] I see nothing against these links. All democrats speak a common language. However, one thing must be made quite clear: Paraguayan problems must be resolved at home. No alien power will make things change. It is up to us Paraguayans to seek Paraguayan solutions to our problems. We must carry out political activities at home, unless the government prevents us from doing so, as in the case of certain exiles. This does not prevent democrats from fraternizing. Since strong and dictatorial governments seek the support of each other through alliances in a sort of international union of swords, there is no reason for democrats not to fraternize.

[Nielsen] As a lawmaker, do you believe that the manner in which the state has been going into debt to stimulate development has been prudent?

[Franco] I believe that that government has not been prudent enough in the handling of foreign loans. I believe that unnecessary projects have been undertaken and that the nation's capacity for paying its debts must be the main concern when accepting loans. We cannot mortgage the future of coming generations. There are superfluous projects which will not benefit the country. This is the case with the two international airports in Stroessner and Pedro Juan Caballero. We are also worried about the way in which the loans are being handled. There have been several unfortunate episodes in this field. We do not oppose credit when it is aimed at financing productive sectors.

[Nielsen] What do you consider to be the inalienable rights of a citizen?

[Franco] The right to life, the right to education at all levels, the right to proper nourishment, the right to health and to expect the state to help the poor, the right to suitable and decent clothing, the right to freely express opinions, the right to think, the right to publish, the right to be eligible for public office without any requirements other than being qualified for the job, the right of the Paraguayan citizen to join the Armed Forces, and the right to live on Paraguayan soil and to depart from and return to it as one sees fit.

FEBRERIST LEADER ON SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL FORUM

PY241530 Asuncion EL DIARIO NOTICIAS in Spanish 23 Sep 84 p 12

[Excerpt] Euclides Acevedo, president of the Febrerist Revolutionary Party [PRF], said that "they are not going to come to tell us what we have to do in our country. We know exactly what we have to do. We are not going to put up with any political bullying nor ideologies except for that of our fellow partisans."

BELAUNDE PRAISES ARMED FORCES PERFORMANCE

PY251700 Paris AFP in Spanish 2115 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Lima, 24 Sep (AFP) -- Peruvian President Fernando Belaunde Terry here today praised the role which the Armed Forces are playing in the struggle against the infiltration of alien ideologies which lead Peruvian citizens into shameful activities such as drug trafficking and subversion.

In the course of his speech on the occasion of Armed Forces Day which is being commemorated today, the Peruvian chief executive said: I am aware of their exceptional capacity, effectiveness, and patriotism as champions of territorial sovereignty and integrity, just as I am aware of their desire to serve national development under any circumstances.

Belaunde went on to add that the help which the Armed Forces have been giving to the maintenance of public order in those areas of the country where drug trafficking and terrorism disrupt this order has made it possible to keep these activities in check for the benefit of society.

Further on he said that this dedicated service which the Armed Forces are rendering is appreciated even more because it entails fighting against fellow citizens who place themselves outside the law. He added that the military's participation in the maintenance of peaceful order and the state of law is aimed at restoring the affected areas to normal.

Belaunde concluded by paying homage to the military men who have courageously fallen in the line of duty.

PERCOVICH ON POSSIBLE LIFTING OF EMERGENCY STATE

PY251445 Lima Cadena Panamericana Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Text] Interior Minister Luis Percovich today announced that the state of emergency in the whole country, except for the zones under military control, will very probably be lifted on 6 October.

[Begin recording] [Percovich] The president wishes the national state of emergency, which ends on 6 October, not to be renewed for an additional term. So, we will wait for this issue to be studied until 6 October, and hope that a favorable decision will be made.

[Reporter] Considering the current situation, do you think this is a good moment for making this measure?

[Percovich] I think that viewing the nation as a whole, with the exception of the emergency zones in the central region, in Huanaco Department, where the Armed Forces are operating, and in the Mariscal Caceres Province, there should not be any great difficulty in lifting the state of emergency on 6 October. This is not a decision that will be made by the Interior Ministry alone, but it must necessarily be discussed with other organizations as well, such as the Joint Command of the Armed Forces, the Armed Forces ministers, and the intelligence services, which have to hand in a final report so that a decision can be made. [end recording]

Acevedo, who will travel to Rio de Janeiro shortly to attend the Socialist International meeting, made these statements when he was asked whether at the meeting anyone might come up with suggestions regarding Paraguayan domestic affairs, since he and other members of his retinue will talk about the country's political situation at the meeting.

Acevedo reiterated that "we regard the members of the Socialist International as autonomous parties. We only advocate international solidarity, which does not mean interfering in domestic affairs. The Socialist International is well aware, and the dictatorship should know this, too, that only we, the citizens of Paraguay, are going to solve Paraguayan problems. In this regard, it is precisely we members of the Paraguayan opposition who will carry out the country's democratization and we are not going to do it with formulas imported from abroad nor with a formula that has stemmed from the dictatorship."

Regarding the subjects to be discussed during the Rio de Janeiro meeting, to be carried out under the slogan "peace and democracy," the Socialist International bureau will refer to subjects related to Latin America and the Caribbean. Acevedo added that "naturally, when we talk about Latin America we will have to talk about the real situation in Paraguay and we will obviously have to go to the meeting with proof that our claims are supported by a prior evaluation of the current national situation."

OPPOSITION POLITICIAN DETAINED, RELEASED

PY252217 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 24 Sep 84 p 9

[Text] Miguel Angel Gonzalez Casabianca [a leader of the Colorado Popular Movement] was detained on 23 September in the city of Aregua and then taken to the Investigations Department, where, along with his brother-in-law, Marcos Bibolini, and his wife, Christina Ruiz Bibolini, he was held for 90 minutes, according to a statement the politician has issued. Gonzalez Casabianca explained that he was detained in the neighborhood of Aregua's church by a police officer who was obeying the orders of Inspector Cantero. "The deployment of the police was so spectacular that it alarmed the peaceful people of that city," he said. He then said that he and his relatives were put into a cell and were released 90 minutes later without anyone explaining why they had been detained.

TV REPORTER DETAINED FOR UNKNOWN REASONS

PY221324 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 22 Sep 84 p 11

[Text] It has been reported that Miguel Angel Arguello, a reporter for judicial and police matters for "Cerro Cora" TV Channel 9, was detained yesterday and is being held incommunicado at the central police department. The report added that Arguello is at the disposal of the head of the Public Order Department. Arguello was detained at noon after he had concluded his regular activity at Channel 9. The reasons for his arrest are unknown.

GOVERNMENT DENIES EMIGRATION OF OFFICIALS

PY252237 Paris AFP in Spanish 1537 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Text] -- Montevideo, 25 Sep (AFP) -- The Military Government of Uruguay has denied that the African Republic of Gabon has allegedly granted 250 residency visas to current Uruguayan Government employees.

The National Directorate of Public Relations [Dinarp] has released a communique denying these rumors, which were published by the weekly SINCENSURA, an organ of the traditional Blanco Party. In its communique, Dinarp says that at the special request of the Foreign Ministry, the Gabonese ambassador reported that his government has not granted any visas. It reports, however, that the Gabonese Embassy has received 10 visa applications.

Under the headline "250 Visas for Gabon; Who is Packing His Suitcases?" SINCENSURA published a number of speculations on an alleged emigration of Uruguayans who have taken part in the military process that has governed the country since 1973.

SINCENSURA has also reported that Paraguay is a sure destination for an allegedly massive emigration of Uruguayans, even alleging that a high-ranking official is said to have sold his ranch in Uruguay to buy another in Paraguay.

LABOR, MINISTER RESIGNS POST TO CAMPAIGN

PY251815 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Except] Labor and Social Security Minister Colonel Nestor Bolentini has tendered his resignation. Col Bolentini has forwarded his resignation to the president of the Republic telling him that beginning 15 October through election day he will dedicate himself to political campaigning. Col Bolentini hinted that if he was granted permission to retain his post while he was campaigning, he would do so.

SANGUINETTI TO ATTEND SOCIALIST MEETING IN RIO

PY252214 Paris AFP in Spanish 1425 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Text] Montevideo, 25 Sep (AFP) -- The Executive Committee of the traditional Colorado Party (liberal) has resolved that Julio Sanguinetti, the party's presidential candidate, will participate in the meeting of the Socialist International (SI) that will be held in October in Brazil. Roberto Asiain, the party's secretary for international relations, will accompany Sanguinetti. The SI meeting will start on 4 October in the city of Rio de Janeiro with the participation of its 49 member parties. The Colorado delegates will explain the current Uruguayan political situation to the forum.

The parties that are grouped in the SI can count on the votes of 100 million people and well-known politicians can be found in its leadership, such as the FRG's Willy Brandt (president), Italy's Bettino Craxi (vice president), Israel's Shimon Peres (vice president), Venezuela's Carlos Andres Perez (vice president), and Sweden's Olaf Palme (vice president).

OPPOSITION LEADERS, ECONOMISTS DISCUSS REFINANCING

PA250212 Paris AFP in Spanish 2225 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Caracas, 23 Sep (AFP) -- Opposition leaders and economists said in Caracas today that the agreement to refinance the Venezuelan foreign debt, announced by President Cusinchi, "is very positive since it ushers in Venezuela's economic recovery."

Cusinchi yesterday announced in New York that his government and the creditor banks committee reached an agreement to refinance Venezuela's foreign debt. Venezuela's overall public debt amounts to \$27 billion, of which \$5 billion cannot be refinanced because it is owed to international and multinational organizations (export banks, government officials, IDB, bonds, and so on.) Venezuela succeeded in refinancing \$20.75 billion of the \$27 billion. The amount refinanced represents 94 percent [as published] of the public debt suitable to be refinanced, that is, \$22 billion.

Senator Pompeyo Marquez, secretary general of the Movement Toward Socialism, MAS, has said: "The agreement to refinance 94 percent of the public sector's foreign debt is important for us." He stressed: "It is also very positive that the LIBOR rate, which is more stable than that of the United States, has been applied."

Deputy Jesus Angel Paz Galarraga, secretary general of the People's Electoral Movement, MEP, told ACAN-EFE: "I consider the agreement very positive, we have eliminated the payment of commissions for refinancing, although we still have to consider the fixed annual payments we will make over the 12 and 1/2 years that the creditors banks granted us."

Senator Jovito Villalba, leader of the Democratic Republican Union, URD, said: "I feel very impressed, satisfied, and optimistic over the agreement that President Cusinchi signed with creditor banks. This agreement indicates that we have entered down the road of the nation's economic recovery." Deputy Jose Miguel Uzcategui of the Social Christian Party, [COPEI] chief opposition party, expressed this opinion:

"This negotiation for the refinancing of the public debt in two stages is positive. The first of these stages occurred during Luis Herrera Campins' term from February 1983 to February 1984 while the second stage has just been completed."

Uzcategui, who is a former president of the Venezuelan Association of Economists, also said: "The first stage is also important because the terms for refinancing have been set forth." It has been estimated that the country will have to pay about \$3.7 billion annually, which is not higher than 25 percent of the country's current revenues.

Accurate estimates have not been made because the fixed amount that Venezuela will have to pay creditor banks over the 12 and 1/2 years provide for in the refinancing agreement is still unknown.

In addition, comparisons have been made with Asian countries whose debts are not as large as Latin America's. Their foreign debts interests are no higher than 12 percent of their current revenues.

SEPULVEDA ADDRESSES UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

FL251316 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2145 GMT 24 Sep 84

[By Jose Carreno, correspondent]

[Excerpts] United Nations, 24 Sep (NOTIMEX) -- Speaking before the UN General Assembly, Mexican Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda today called for Central American governments to urgently adopt the legal agreements in the Contadora Group's proposal. Sepulveda condemned the virtually paralyzed North-South dialogue. He said that Latin America's most pressing problem was its foreign debt, and stressed that urgent measures and an international agreement to establish new and more equitable international economic relations were required. He said the principles of state equality, self-determination, nonintervention, and the prohibition against the use of force can have no exception.

Sepulveda said that the political and diplomatic efforts by the Contadora member nations has been severely affected by diverse actions which have worsened tensions and generated mistrust in the area. He called on governments which have ties and interests in the area to provide unequivocal support for ending the arms race; arms traffic; naval, ground, and air maneuvers; and the presence of advisers and foreign military bases.

Among the activities which have affected negotiations in Central America, Sepulveda cited tendentious information which tries to undermine the Contadora process and initiatives and erects obstacles to more open and fluid dialogue among the Central American nations.

After underscoring that negotiation presupposes harmonizing legitimate interests, the foreign minister noted that it was the Central American governments' responsibility to decide between peace and war, development and destruction. He stressed that the Contadora Group would continue making every possible effort in its work of mediation.

Sepulveda said the increased foreign military presence and support, whether open or covert, to outside forces and groups whose objective is the overthrow of established governments in the area had constituted the major difficulties in lessening tension and increasing understanding.

Meets With Gromyko

FL251056 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0233 GMT 25 Sep 84

[By Jose Carreno, correspondent]

[Text] United Nations, 24 Sep (NOTIMEX) -- Mexican Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda Amor today met for 45 minutes with his Soviet counterpart Andrey Gromyko after a hectic day at the UN General Assembly. A spokesman from the Mexican secretariat described the meeting as one in a series of bilateral meetings on Bernardo Sepulveda's agenda. It was reported that three topics were discussed at the meeting: bilateral relations, Central America, and international relations in general.

The spokesman reported that at the meeting with Gromyko, Soviet-Mexican relations were emphasized as being in an excellent state. The spokesman said relations between the two nations were developing in a clear, constructive, and respectful manner, and that they show signs of increasing in the economic, scientific, and bilateral realms. He said Gromyko had reiterated his government's invitation to President Miguel de la Madrid to make a state visit to the Soviet Union.

Foreign Secretary Sepulveda described to Gromyko the Contadora Group's work, the significance of the proposal which had been made, and explained that negotiations between the United States and Nicaragua represent important prospects for raising issues which could lead to solutions.

According to sources, Gromyko expressed his support for the Contadora Group's work as part of a process which contributes to the lessening of tensions in the area and introduces alternatives to the use of force.

On international relations, both Gromyko and Sepulveda stressed the importance of dialogue between the superpowers for lessening tension and for resolving regional conflicts which endanger world peace.

Shortly before the General Assembly meeting, Sepulveda met with Latin American foreign ministers and representatives who are present at the UN. At that meeting the foreign ministers raised the possibility of the region strengthening its unity on Central America to underscore support for the Contadora Group.

FOREIGN SECRETARY TO PAY OFFICIAL VISIT TO PRC

FL251941 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2149 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] United Nations, 24 Sep (NOTIMEX) -- Mexico's Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda Amor will pay an official visit to the PRC beginning 20 October, Mexican diplomatic sources announced today. They said the Mexican foreign secretary's visit is in reciprocity for PRC Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian's visit to Mexico last August.

It was announced that PRC Finance Minister Wang Bingqian will arrive in Mexico City next Saturday to meet with Secretary of Finance and Public Credit Jesus Silva Herzog in order to examine the commercial and financial relations between the two nations.

At the same time it was announced that the Mexican ambassadors to Asian countries will hold a meeting in Beijing which will be chaired by Under Secretary of Foreign Relations Ricardo Valero.

PEMEX ANNOUNCES NO RISE IN OIL PRICES FOR OCTOBER

FL252148 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2300 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Mexico City, 24 Sep (NOTIMEX) -- Mexican Petroleum today announced that the price of the Isthmus crude for export will remain at \$29 per barrel and the price of Maya at \$25 per barrel during the month of October. These are the prices PEMEX will use for all sales made abroad through long-term contracts, it was indicated.

The Mexican parastate enterprise noted that this determination was made in fulfillment of an agreement by the Petroleum Foreign Trade Committee (COCEP) after a prior study of the conditions of the international market.

Under secretaries of the Secretariats of Energy, Mines, and Parastate Industry, Finance and Public Credit, Planning and Budget, Commerce and Industrial Development, and Foreign Relations are members of the committee as well as delegates from the Bank of Mexico and Mexican Petroleum, whose director is the COCEP chairman.

EEC TO DOUBLE CENTRAL AMERICAN ECONOMIC AID

FL252110 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2115 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Mexico City, 24 Sep (NOTIMEX) -- The local press has stated today that the European Economic Community (EEC) will double its economic aid to Central America to strengthen the political determination of the countries in the area to sign the Contadora Group's peace agreement.

To this end, a meeting will be held this weekend in San Jose, Costa Rica, that will be attended by the 10 foreign ministers of the EEC, Spain, and Portugal, the Central American foreign ministers, and the four Contadora Group foreign ministers.

The local press has explained that, according to official estimates, the Western European nations are willing to offer \$64 million, which represents six percent of the area's financing needs. At present, the area receives \$32 million in aid annually. The press added that the aid package will be channeled through the Action Committee in Support of the Economic and Social Development of Central America (Cadesca) and, as a strategy for economic recovery, will seek to reactivate regional industry and local markets.

Regional studies estimate that \$6 billion in economic aid is needed. European nations are kept from buying Central American regional products because they consist of raw materials similar to those supplied by Africa.

COSTA RICAN AMBASSADOR PRAISES CONTADORA EFFORTS

FL210200 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2305 GMT 20 Sep 84

[Text] San Jose, 20 Sep (NOTIMEX) -- Costa Rica's new ambassador to Mexico Angel Edmundo Solano said here today that Costa Rica should have closer ties with the Contadora Group in the search for peaceful solutions to Central America's problems.

Interviewed by NOTIMEX, the former minister of security under Luis Alberto Monge's government said that Mexico firmly adheres to the international principles of non-intervention, free self-determination, and the peaceful resolution of conflicts.

Nevertheless, this position has been criticized by former Costa Rican officials who have accused Mexico for the failure of the Contadora Group, and for supporting the dictatorial regimes of the region.

Solano denied that the Contadora Group had failed, underscoring that over the last year and a half, violence in Central America had been curbed. He added that this undoubtedly happened because of efforts by Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia, and Panama.

He said that those who consider the Contadora Group's efforts a failure are those representatives of Costa Rica's extreme right who would like to see their country go to war, and to see the present Nicaraguan Government junta overthrown. He added that they themselves have criticized their own country's policies of neutrality.

Solano said one of his main activities as ambassador to Mexico would be to explain the principles behind President Luis Alberto Monge's decision to declare Costa Rica under perpetual, active, and unarmed neutrality, and to explain the principal internal and external problems which the country has had to face to avoid involvement in the region's violence.

He said another of his tasks as a Costa Rican diplomat in Mexico will be to strengthen bilateral dialogue and negotiation, and the principle of neutrality of his country.

He said that present government-level relations between Costa Rica and Mexico were excellent, although he acknowledged that relations should be increased in the trade, technology, and cultural fields.

Solano said that at present, everything concerning petroleum, which in the past had been very productive, had been agreed upon, but that there was a need for revitalization because Mexico and Costa Rica have very close ties.

During his tenure as minister of security, Solano was criticized by several ultraright sectors and the U.S. Embassy in San Jose, because of his active defense of Costa Rican

PRESIDENT ILLUECA OPENS WORLD 'INDIAN' CONGRESS

PA241648 Paris AFP in Spanish 0242 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Panama City, 23 Sep (AFP) -- Panamanian President Jorge Illueca inaugurated the Fourth World Assembly of Indian Peoples here today. This meeting is being attended by more than 30 countries and was organized with the help of international organizations.

For 4 days, indigenous leaders of the Asian Pacific, Africa, and North, South and Central America will review the situation of native peoples in regard to the self-determination of the peoples, their cultures, natural resources, and the killing of Indians in Brazil and other parts of the world.

The meeting will also discuss the Central American problem and its effects on the region, as well as U.S. nuclear tests in Hawaii.

It was learned that Indian leaders from Nicaragua will discuss the creation of a new Miskito Indian organization that will possibly lessen the importance of Indian groups involved in the struggle against the Nicaraguan Government.

According to Donald Rojas of the organizing committee, in Central America there are 200,000 Indians who sought refuge in southern Mexico, and another 15,000 who are Nicaraguans and are refugees in Honduras and southern Costa Rica.

SCHOOL OF THE AMERICAS MAY GO TO HONDURAS

PA252229 Panama City YA in Spanish 25 Sep 84 pp 4, 15

[Text] There is every indication that the U.S. Government training school (School of the Americas) will be installed in Honduras, a country that is used by the United States for training and other maneuvers in the Central American area.

The School of the Americas, located in Colon, on the Atlantic side of the Republic of Panama, is being closed in compliance with the Torrijos-Carter treaties. Certain groups in Colon maintain that the closing of the School of the Americas will hurt the province economically, a charge that has been made by the Chamber of Commerce of Colon and political leaders such as Jose Dominador Bazan, former president of the republic, and Jaime Fernandez Urrutia, a legislator.

Honduras, in Central America, has shown great interest in having foreign, or rather, U.S. troops install bases and schools there. Thus, it is certain that the North Americans will find a place to set up a school to replace the School of the Americas.

It has been said that the School of the Americas in Panama was used by the United States to train the military personnel who are involved in the current wars in El Salvador and Nicaragua. This has generated some discontent in many countries and thus Panama, in compliance with the Torrijos-Carter treaties, has called for the school to be closed.

With the closure of the School of the Americas, hundreds of Panamanians will lose their jobs and it is claimed that the economy of Colon will be harmed. The fact is that the economy of that province has been in dire straits, even without the closure of the school.

Permanent solutions must be found to provide jobs for the thousands of unemployed in Colon Province and to solve the basic housing shortage in the city of Colon. These social problems are critical and the government must find a solution to them.

PDC SEEKS REORGANIZATION OF ELECTORAL TRIBUNAL

PA220004 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 21 Sep 84 pp D16, D14

["Communique on the Electoral Tribunal and Its President" issued by Panama's Christian Democratic Party, PDC; place, date not given -- capitalized passages published in boldface"]

[Text] In view of the Electoral Tribunal's recent actions the CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY states:

1. The Electoral Tribunal has committed fraud against many of the opposition's candidates to the legislature just as it committed fraud against the opposition's presidential ticket.

In several electoral circuits, such as in Arraijan and Chorrera, fraud was committed to benefit the representatives of the current regime's gross political corruption. Fraud has just been committed in Circuits 1-2 (Chiriqui Grande), 8-6 (San Miguelito), 8-10 (Pedregal and Tocumen), and 9-2 (Sona and La Mesa). The first steps to commit fraud in Circuit 5-2 (Pinogana) have also been taken. In the process, the Electoral Tribunal has rejected the records of individual polling places that expert graphologists said are unaltered, while accepting others that the same experts said had been altered.

Summarizing, the Electoral Tribunal, together with the legislators of fraud, have fabricated a legislative majority for the president of fraud.

Therefore, THE PDC REAFFIRMS ITS DETERMINATION TO CONDUCT EFFORTS TO CHANGE ALL ELECTORAL TRIBUNAL MAGISTRATES AND COMPLETELY REORGANIZE THAT INSTITUTION.

2. Electoral Tribunal President Magistrate Cesar Quintero has gradually become an accomplice to the fraud committed by the two other Electoral Tribunal magistrates, whom he himself accused of "completely siding with the ruling Democratic Revolutionary Party [PRD]." (Statement made to Barcelona's LA VANGUARDIA on 21 May 1984)

His abstentions from voting and his repeated public and private statements have led him to admit, with reservations, that the Electoral Tribunal, which he himself heads, has acted in a shameful manner. However, thus far he has lacked the courage to resign, which is the only path left for an honest man who is faced with circumstances of this nature.

On 14 September, Magistrate Quintero irresponsibly accused the PDC of three things:

1) That the party did not meet the minimum number of followers required by law. 2) That the party's participation in the 1980 elections was illegal. 3) That the party asked the Electoral Tribunal for special privileges and upheld and practiced a double standard during the 1984 electoral process.

Facts contradict these irresponsible accusations. The PDC is the only party that obtained more votes than its registered number of followers in both the 1980 and 1984 elections. It demonstrated that it is an opposition party that enjoys widespread popular support and that does not need tricks and fraud to grow. Moreover, Magistrate Quintero's accusations are really directed against the magistrates who served during the 1980 and 1984 elections and failed to fulfill their constitutional and legal obligations.

Out of respect for public opinion, THE PDC refuses to be associated with the moral decay of which the Electoral Tribunal is victim. Therefore, it announces that AT THE BEGINNING OF NEXT WEEK IT WILL SUBMIT A LAWSUIT AGAINST ELECTORAL TRIBUNAL PRESIDENT MAGISTRATE CESAR QUINTERO BEFORE THE SUPREME COURT OF JUSTICE ON CHARGES OF SLANDER AND PERJURY COMMITTED AGAINST THE PDC.

3. THE PDC, which struggles against fraud and corruption on a permanent basis, urges all Panamanians who repudiate fraud and the current regime's corruption to fight together to obtain a renewed Electoral Tribunal and honest political morals in order to continue the path toward democracy and rescue our country.

Ricardo Arias Calderon, president
Carlos Arellano Lennox, vice-president
Guillermo A Cochez, vice-president
Jose A Sossa, vice-president
Raul E Figueroa, secretary general

SIGNS INDICATE EXISTENCE OF 'SEVENTH FORCE'

PA211848 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 21 Sep 84 p 1

[From the "As of Today" column]

[Text] Slowly, and in spite of the authorities, signs that confirm Angel Wassel Rock's [alleged member of the "Seventh Force"] remarks about the existence of a "Seventh Force" have begun to appear. The "Seventh Force" is a paramilitary group made up of individuals with long police records. This group was used in political terrorism tasks during the past elections. The nature of this group explains perfectly the passivity of the Defense Forces agents who were protecting the Legislative Palace on 7 May and did nothing to stop the heavy shooting that lasted 4 hours and resulted in a tragic toll of 2 dead and more than 40 wounded. It also explains why no prosecuting official interrogated Silverio Brown, the leader of the group, despite the many showings of pictures and video recordings in which he was seen firing at the unarmed crowd while his underlings were waving Democratic Revolutionary Party [PRD] flags.

It is already known, as everything is known sooner or later, that Brown had many important ties with top civilian and military officials, whose private telephone numbers appeared on a page of Brown's notebook, a copy of which we published in yesterday's issue. If Brown were simply a common criminal, as the state media and government officials are trying to make us believe, why did he have access to the private telephone numbers of so many important people?

Certain members of the "Seventh Force" maintain that Brown was murdered by those who had used his services. A few weeks ago one of these members, Arsenio Gonzalez, fearing for his life, sought refuge at the French Embassy and subsequently left Panama under discreet diplomatic protection. Another member of this group, Wassel Rock, sought refuge at the Venezuelan Embassy for the same reason.

According to reliable sources, a third member of this group has left for Costa Rica. All of them confirmed the existence of the "Seventh Force." However, there is still no official who wants to or can investigate the sordid details of this matter. This is the old problem which the Romans summed up as: Who will guard those who guard us? The Panamanians have changed the question to: Who will defend us from the Defense Forces?

EL SALVADORUNGO ACCUSES DUARTE OF 'HEDGING' ON CONTADORA

PA250448 Paris AFP in Spanish 1843 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Panama City, 24 Sep (AFP) -- Salvadoran opposition leader Guillermo Ungo has accused President Jose Napoleon Duarte of hedging regarding the Contadora Peace Document, despite having announced his acceptance of it. In a statement to AFP, the president of the Revolutionary Democratic Front (FDR), the political wing of the Salvadoran guerrillas, noted that Duarte accepts the 21 points contained in the document, only if they are applied multilaterally, totally and simultaneously. Ungo said that that is precisely the pivot of Duarte's hedging, "because nobody is going to believe that economic, political, social, and military problems can be solved simultaneously."

Moreover, Ungo remarked that Duarte is using Ronald Reagan's tactic of supporting the Contadora Group but always with subterfuge. The FDR President refrained from commenting on Duarte's trip to Venezuela, Colombia, and Panama during the past week, stating only: "I do not know all the facts to speak about that."

ARMY CONTINUES COUNTERINSURGENCY OPERATIONS

Troop Mobilization Reported

PA251732 El Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 23 Sep 84 pp 3, 21

[Text] The Salvadoran Armed Forces have mobilized troops to strategic sectors of Cabanas, San Vicente, Morazan, San Miguel, Cuscatlan, Chalatenango, La Union, and Usulután Departments. The Army is seeking to counter terrorist attack plans or regroupings, according to military spokesmen. Over the past few weeks, rumors about preparations for still another terrorist offensive have been circulating. The Army troops mobilization is an effort to prevent these guerrilla actions.

Nevertheless, the Army has continued its search operation for rebel camps throughout the national territory in villages, cantons, cities, and jungles. Infantrymen are searching areas near Cerron Grande and Chorrera del Guayabo Dams in Cabanas and Chalatenango Departments. Similarly, other infantry troops are operating near the 15 September Dam, which is also known as San Lorenzo.

In the northeastern area of Santa Ana Department, infantry troops are patrolling the area near El Guajoyo Dam while security forces patrol the road from Santa Ana to Metapan and Anguiatu, near the Guatemalan border. Other military and security forces have been mobilized in other areas that have not yet been affected by violence, although this might change at any moment.

Further Report

PA241505 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 0025 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] Last week the Army increased its operations to search for insurgent hideouts and cut off the supply of weapons to the guerrillas, especially in northern El Salvador. Similar actions by the Army are also being carried out in Cabanas, in central El Salvador, with the participation of approximately 2,000 men from 4 specialized battalions who are supported by Air Force and artillery units.

The Army is also carrying out other counterinsurgency actions in the Department of San Salvador, Cuscatlan, San Vicente, San Miguel, La Union, and Morazan where, according to a report by the Armed Forces Press Committee, Coprefa, at least 30 rebels have been killed. The guerrillas have continued to sabotage the electricity service, highway and railroad transportation, and cottonfields in various areas of the country. Clandestine Radio Venceremos has reported that FMLN forces have inflicted at least 46 casualties on the Army in recent actions in various regions of the country.

GUATEMALA

RIGHTISTS CRITICIZE SPANISH DIPLOMATIC AGREEMENT

PA260310 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2126 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Excerpts] Guatemala City, 24 Sep (ACAN-EFE) -- Rightist political sectors in Guatemala today criticized the agreement signed between Spain and Guatemala to reestablish diplomatic relations between the two countries, which were broken off in 1980.

Lionel Sisniega Otero, presidential hopeful for the extreme right Anticomunist Unification Party (PUA), said today that "the agreement is a diplomatic defeat for Guatemala."

Sisniega Otero said that "in no way" could Guatemala accept culpability for the fire in the Spanish Embassy because it was "caused by guerrillas." He added that in the agreement signed last Saturday in Bogota, Guatemala conceded that the events in the Spanish Embassy "constituted a violation of Articles 22 and 29 of the Vienna Convention on international relations." The agreement also provides for the establishment of a mixed Spanish-Guatemala commission to determine within 12 months who was responsible for the incident.

"Since Guatemala accepted guilt in the incident and is paying material reparations to the affected Spaniards, I would consider it just and logical that the relatives of the Guatemalans who were killed also ask for indemnity from the government," said Sisniega Otero. Other rightist politicians also expressed opposition to the terms of the agreement that was signed.

However, Foreign Minister Fernando Andrade, who returned from Bogota last night, told the press in an effort to calm the rightist sectors, that "we must forget the past and look to the future because all this work has been very difficult." The foreign minister reaffirmed that the agreement terms "are just, dignified, and honorable for both sides."

After the signing of the agreement, the position of the Guatemalan politicians has been made clear: The right insists that Guatemala should not have admitted guilt while more moderate sectors are pleased with this and asked that those found guilty of the "killing" be punished.

SALVADORAN VICE PRESIDENT DISCUSSES DEATH SQUADS

PA260032 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 22 Sep 84 p 4

[Text] Salvadoran Vice President Rodolfo Castillo Claramount who is currently visiting Guatemala yesterday said that Major Roberto D'aubuisson might be tried if the investigations conducted by the Salvadoran Government regarding the crimes that have had a great affect on the world's conscience show that the former presidential candidate was involved in these activities.

During a press conference at El Dorado Hotel, Castillo said that "D'Aubuisson's participation in the death squads" has been widely mentioned, and that he will be tried if he is found to be responsible for the crimes committed by this clandestine faction. He added: El Salvador is a law-abiding country, and if we want the law to be respected, all criminals should be prosecuted. Everyone has a right to a just trial.

The Salvadoran Government is conducting a thorough investigation regarding the crimes that have so greatly affected the world's conscience, including the murder of Monsignor Romero, of Rudolfo Viera, of the U.S. advisers, as well as the massacre of peasants, and others, Castillo said. The death squads are ultrarightists, and demonstrate the crisis of values in which El Salvador was submerged in the past, he noted.

After 100 days in power, Jose Napoleon Duarte's government has achieved a positive advancement in the most sensible aspects of the Salvadoran life, Castillo stressed. Among the most significant advancements are an impressive improvement in the respect for human rights, a reduction in cases of abuse of authority, and less fear of the security forces by the population.

Regarding the guerrilla problem, Castillo Claramount said that they have lost popular support, and that if they had the people's support, the military victory of these factions would be a reality. Peasants have rejected violence and have embraced the democratic path. This was demonstrated during the past elections, he stressed.

The process of pacifying the country requires great efforts, particularly in solving social and economic problems. Economic rehabilitation is a difficult task, because most of the country's infrastructure has been damaged by guerrilla actions. There are bridges, dams, and other works that need to be repaired, he indicated. Castillo added: What El Salvador needs in order to recover is understanding from friendly countries, and this is why President Duarte has been touring several countries; to explain the current situation in the country and to try to obtain financial aid in order to stabilize his government on a real basis.

In reply to a reporter's question, Castillo said that there is no dialogue with the guerrillas, because it should be the result of a clear and profound awareness. The FDR, the guerrilla's political arm has no control over these groups. Therefore, in talks with this organization, the FDR would have no political representation, or power of decision over the guerrilla commanders, Castillo concluded.

ARMY REPORTS ON CLASHES WITH GUERRILLAS

PA252241 Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 24 Sep 84 p 2

[Text] A total of 22 peasants who had been kidnapped by guerrillas were rescued by members of the Guatemalan Army in Parramos municipality, Chimaltenango Department, when a military patrol of Zone No 3 intercepted a group of rebels who were about to enter this town. A clash ensued, but no casualties were reported.

An official communique issued by the Army's Information and Press Office stated that the soldiers pursued the guerrillas, who fled when they found out that they had been discovered, abandoning 3 men, 6 women, and 13 children who they had been holding captive. These persons were given protection under the current amnesty, since it was confirmed that they were victims of coercion.

The communique added that in the jurisdiction of San Jose Las Rosas, Chimaltenango municipality, a patrol unit of the Guatemalan Army discovered a large cache of guerrilla supplies, which included diverse weapons, medicines, food, and valuable recorded information which is being evaluated by the Armed Forces.

Backpacks, Chinese batons, grenades, and rifles which had been abandoned by rebels following a clash Saturday at 1130 near "El Baluarte" farm, jurisdiction of the Coatepeque municipality, Quezaltenango Department, were also confiscated by the Armed Forces.

HONDURAS

PAZ BARNICA ON STRIKE, NEGOTIATIONS WITH U.S.

PA251900 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica has reported that the negotiating commission appointed yesterday by the government to resolve the labor conflict in the National Enterprise for Electric Power [ENEE] has the support of the Armed Forces. Radio America was the first to report that the government has appointed a negotiating commission comprised of the secretary of the presidency, the labor secretary, and the manager of ENEE. The commission was appointed to resolve the labor conflict in ENEE. The foreign secretary said the commission has the backing of the Armed Forces. Here is a report by correspondent Danilo Antunes:

[Paz Barnica] "A meeting of the Security Council was presided over by Dr Roberto Suazo Cordova as president of the council and of the Republic. The meeting was called in accordance with the powers the president has to discuss very important topics that deal with the national and international interests of the Honduran people.

"On domestic matters, we continued to address the problem created by the ENEE union's illegal strike. It was reiterated that the government will act with all of the necessary moderation and wisdom, but also with all of the necessary energy that the case requires within the law because problems must be resolved within the framework of the law.

"It must also be stressed that two high-level commissions have been appointed to present formulas, suggestions, and alternatives to resolve this problem. One commission is made up of representatives of the Confederation of Honduran Workers and of the General Workers Confederation. This is a union commission. There is also a government commission made up of the secretary of the presidency, the labor secretary, and the ENEE manager."

[Antunes] What decisionmaking power does the government commission have?

[Paz Barnica] "It has the power necessary to act to protect the country's interests. It also has the full support of the Security Council and the Armed Forces in its search for a solution based on moderation, the law, and firmness within the framework of the law."

[Antunes] What other subjects were discussed at the National Security Council meeting?

[Paz Barnica] "We discussed the proposal made 2 months ago by the Honduran Government to the U.S. Government with regard to undertaking amicable negotiations in the fields of economic cooperation and security.

"As you must recall, approximately 2 months ago the Honduran Government presented a proposal to the U.S. Government. On the basis of that proposal, two documents have been drafted: One deals with the subject of security and another with economic cooperation. Tomorrow these documents will be presented to the U.S. State Department by Juan Agurcia, Honduran ambassador to Washington, and I, as foreign secretary, will present them to John Dimitri Negroponte, U.S. ambassador to Honduras.

"As a democratic government, we have a duty to periodically report on matters that are vitally important to the country; thus, it must be made perfectly clear to the national and international public that these documents fall within the framework of the defense of national interests and, therefore, within the framework of strengthening the relations of cooperation and friendship that exist with the U.S. Government since we share common ideals for progress, democracy, freedom and peace. Any document that might result from this process of amicable and reciprocal negotiations being promoted by the Honduran Government must be approved by the Honduran National Congress."

GOVERNMENT WARNS AGAINST SOLIDARITY STRIKES

PA251843 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Labor and Social Welfare Secretariat communique issued in Comayagua on 24 September]

[Text] Exercising its legal powers, the Labor and Social Welfare Secretariat reports the following to all of the country's unions, federations, confederations, workers associations, independent workers, and the public:

1. The strike being held by the workers union at the National Enterprise for Electric Power [ENEE] is completely illegal as has been stated by this secretariat in its 19 September resolution.
2. The Labor Code does not recognize or authorize strikes or work stoppages based on principles of solidarity with other workers or unions.

Therefore, this secretariat once again warns the country's organized working class that individuals or organizations that declare the suspension of work without justified cause can be penalized in accordance with the provisions established by the Labor Code.

[Signed] Comayagua, 24 September 1984, Labor and Social Welfare Secretariat

Work Stoppage Called Off

PA251814 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 25 Sep 84

[United Federation of Honduran Workers, FUTH, "Communique No 2" issued in Tegucigalpa on 25 September -- read by FUTH President Napoleon Acevedo Granados]

[Text] The FUTH National Executive Committee announces the following to its affiliate and fraternal organizations:

1. The dialogue with the government of the Republic through the secretary of the presidential office; the labor and social welfare secretary; the manager of the National Enterprise for Electric Power [ENEE]; and Companeros Andres Victor Artiles, secretary general of the Confederation of Honduran Workers, CTH, and Francisco Guerrero Nunez, president of the [Fesitrnh] Union Federation of Northern Workers of Honduras; Felicito Avila Ordonez and Marco Tulio Cruz, secretary general and vice president of the General Workers Confederation, CGT, who were appointed to find a solution to the conflict between the ENEE and its union, began on Monday, 24 September, at 1900.
 2. In view of the fact that the dialogue has developed normally thus far, the work stoppage decided on and agreed to for this date is called off until further notice. We issue a call to all fraternal organizations that support this movement to respect this decision.
 3. With this decision, the FUTH National Executive Committee once again shows the desire to resolve the problem through dialogue. However, we warn that if no just and honorable agreement is reached on this matter, the resolutions issued by the Third Assembly of the National Council of FUTH Representatives will be opportunely implemented.
 4. We report that the general strike begun by the ENEE workers on 19 September will continue in effect until an agreement is reached on the problem.
 5. The affiliate and fraternal organizations must remain ready to carry out a work stoppage whenever the National Executive Committee deems it advisable and appropriate.
- [Signed] Tegucigalpa, 25 September 1984, FUTH National Executive Committee.

PEOPLE'S MOVEMENT DEFENDS NATIONAL SOVERIGNTY

PA221225 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 13 Sep 84 pp 18, 19

[Honduran People's Movement [Movimiento Popular Hondureno, MPH] advertisement issued in Tegucigalpa on 8 September, capitalized passages published in boldface]

[Excerpts] Not only is Honduras a country that has been intervened militarily, it is also a country that has lost the sovereign right to control its economy, its international affairs, and its public administration, in general, in a way that is responsive to its national development interest. Even before the Liberal Party of Honduras took office the U.S. Embassy imposed on President Suazo Cordova economic policy guidelines contained in a document entitled REAGANOMICS. Since then, the IMF has been imposing monetary policy rules, the World Bank, regulations on public investment policies; and the Agency for International Development, a new cosmetic [maquillador] transnational strategy used in Hong Kong, South Korea, and Taiwan.

The entire world knows that our country has been practically occupied by U.S. troops since 1982 as part of the REAGAN policy against the political process presently taking place in Nicaragua and against the new situation developing in El Salvador. Because we are in the center of Central America, we have been chosen to play the sad role of base operations for the U.S. Army.

However, not only have we been occupied by the U.S. Army, we have also been occupied by the Salvadoran Army, which is being trained at the Regional Military Training and Security Center [CREMS] and by the counterrevolutionary bands receiving CIA funds, assistance, and training to attempt to restore Somozism in Nicaragua.

We all know that the ill-famed Gustavo Alvarez Martinez was among those who most openly endorsed those abuses against our national dignity. For that reason, after his ouster as Armed Forces commander in chief on 31 March, his successors proposed the revision of the 1954 convention and its 1982 supplement.

However, according to all reports so far, the objective is not to rescue national sovereignty and dignity, but rather to receive more money for the military use of our territory. On the other hand, the problem of the refugees is being handled from a political and military rather than humanitarian viewpoint. Indeed, Salvadoran refugees are being uprooted geographically for the benefit of the military exercises that are taking place in the border area and to allow the Honduran Army to collaborate with the Salvadoran Army. Meanwhile, Nicaraguan refugees are being obliged to remain in highly dangerous areas to serve as a smokescreen for the operations of Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries.

All of this leads us to declare that there is an urgent need to wage a generalized and forceful struggle to defend the national sovereignty, human rights, and peace. The presence of foreign military troops in our territory, besides being an affront to a people who deserve to be free, leads to repression, because the invaders and their accomplices expect and fear the people's reaction against them. At the same time, the use of Honduras as a parade ground within the Pentagon's plans of aggression places us in the center of a preventive war that can only bring destruction and death to our people.

Considering all of the above, the organizations that form the Honduran People's Movement pledge:

1. To fight unceasingly to rescue our national sovereignty and mobilize the masses for this purpose through marches, demonstrations, hunger strikes, forums, and other popular activities.
2. To reinforce the struggle to defend human rights, so as to prevent further abuses of this nature in Honduras, and to clear up the case of the 112 persons who are still missing and to punish the masterminds and actual perpetrators of these crimes against humanity.
3. To strive to obtain the broadest social mobilization to establish peace based on the premise that peace benefits all while war harms all.

Tegucigalpa, 8 September 1984

1. "El Faro" Breadmakers Cooperative
2. National Electric Energy Enterprise Workers Union, Stenee
3. Union of Workers of the Honduran Social Security Institute [Sindicato de Trabajadores del Instituto Hondureño de Seguridad Social, Sitraihss]
4. Union of Workers of the National Children's Foundation [Sindicato de Trabajadores del Patronato Nacional de la Infancia, Sitrapani]
5. Union of Workers of the National Autonomous University of Honduras, Sitraunah
6. Union of Workers of Honduran Plastic and Similar Industries [Sindicato de Trabajadores de la Industria de Plastico y Similares de Honduras, Sitiplash]
7. Trade Union of National Agrarian Institute Workers, Sitraina
8. Honduran Teachers Unity Front, FUMH
9. Trade Union of Honduran Sugar, Molasses, Alcohol and Related Industries Workers, Sitiamash
10. Union of Workers of the National Autonomous Water and Sewage Service [Sindicato de Trabajadores del Servicio Autonomo Nacional de Acueductos y Alcantarillados, Sitrasana]
11. Union of Workers of the National Institute of Housing [Sindicato de Trabajadores del Instituto Nacional de la Vivienda, Sitrainva]

12. Union of Workers of Beverage and Related Industries [Sindicato de Trabajadores de la Industria de la Bebida y Similares, Stibys]
13. Coordinating Bloc of Organizations, Blocopa
14. Central Front For the Advancement of Communal Interests, Frecedich
15. Anibal Delgado Fiallos, Patrocinio Bonilla Munoz [not further identified]
16. Honduran Human Rights Commission, CODEH
17. Liberal Revolutionary Democratic Movement, M-Lider
18. University Reform Front, FRU
19. Honduran National Peasant Unity Front, Funacamh
20. Union of Public Workers of the National Printing Press [Sindicato de Trabajadores de Empleados Publicos de la Tipografia Nacional]
21. United Federation of Honduras Workers, FUTH
22. National Front of Street Vendors, Frenaram
23. Union of Workers of the Honduran Tobacco Company [Sindicato de Trabajadores de la Tabacalera Hondurena, Sitratah]
24. Association of High School Students
25. BARM [expansion unknown]
26. AEMGH [expansion unknown]
27. Revolutionary Action Front, FAR
28. Secondary Popular Revolutionary Foundation, BPRS
29. Federation of High School Students, FESE
30. Union of Workers of Hondulit-Sitrahondulit

NICARAGUA

SIXTH ROUND OF TALKS TO BEGIN WITH U.S. IN MEXICO

PA251935 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Text] Mexico City -- U.S. and Nicaraguan representatives who are discussing the normalization of bilateral relations between the two countries will meet today in the Mexican port of Manzanillo. A well-informed Mexican diplomatic source told EFE that the meeting, the sixth one of its kind, will be carried out in private, with the participation of Harry Shlaudeman, special U.S. ambassador for Central America, and Victor Hugo Tinoco, Nicaraguan deputy foreign minister.

D'ESCOTO NOTE TO SHULTZ ON SAN ESTEBAN INCIDENT

PA251421 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto protest note to U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz; date not given -- read by announcer]

[Text] Mr Secretary of State: The purpose of this note is to inform you of the following incidents:

At 1130 on 23 September, mercenary groups, at the service of the U.S. Government, ambushed a vehicle transporting mothers and relatives of youths currently participating in the Patriotic Military Service as they were on their way to visit the youths. The criminal ambush took place in San Esteban, 15 km northeast of Jinotega, Jinotega Department. As a consequence of this criminal attack, 8 Nicaraguans were killed and 19 wounded. The names of the deceased follow. Salomon Ortiz Cano, Gladys Hernandez Estrada, Cristina Talavera Picado, Socorro Guardado Talavera, and Angela Naranjo, all of whom are civilians, as well as Guillermo Romero Solorzano, Eddy Vanegas Garcia, and Hernan Javier Marin Arias, members of our Armed Forces.

The names of the 19 wounded individuals, all civilians, follow: Virginia Lopez, Blanca Azucena Maldonado Rodriguez, Melba del Carmen Orozco Agurto, Maria Dolores Agurto Aguirre, Horacio Torrente Cortes, Donald Antonio Soto Lagos, Jorge Alberto Lagos Chan, Henry Manuel Diaz Vega, Noemi del Socorro Lopez Solis, Ana Mercedes Tellez Oporta, Maria Cecilia Miranda, Danilo Martin Morales Lopez, Alicia Yolanda Fordos Marquez, William Castillo Rocha, Melba Ignacia Herrera Aleman, Socorro Gallecillo Garcia, Yadira Moreira Garcia, Jose Luis Obando, and Marvin Orozco Agurto.

This new indescribable crime is part of the bloody consequences of the U.S. Government's official policy against the Nicaraguan people and part of its support for those who President Reagan has described as freedom fighters and who, incapable of confronting the organized people's military response, brutally attack groups of defenseless women, men, and children, who become targets of their crimes and outrages.

The Nicaraguan Government holds the U.S. Government responsible for these murders as the main initiator and promoter of the war imposed on the Nicaraguan people, which has clearly become increasingly genocidal. Thousands of defenseless citizens, men, women, children, and even newborns, have died as a result of the inhuman actions of the paladins who are directed, financed, armed, and trained by the U.S. Government, through the CIA, in repeated violation of the most elemental laws.

The Nicaraguan Government presents its strongest protest and condemnation to the U.S. Government for this latest crime and once again demands an end to the policy of terror promoted by your government against our people, as well as compliance with international obligations, particularly with the International Court of Justice ruling of 10 May 1984.

Cordially,

[Signed] Miguel D'Escoto Brockman, Foreign Minister.

RADIO SANDINO CRITICAL OF REAGAN UN SPEECH

PA251413 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Text] United Nations -- A great deal of demagoguery and cynicism was evident in President Ronald Reagan's speech today to the UN General Assembly when he discussed the international situation. He asserted that the United States supports the Contadora Group at the same time that the United States continues to maintain a military presence in El Salvador and Honduras. The threatening U.S. war frigates that have been deployed off the Nicaraguan coasts also represent a negative factor that precludes the achievement of a negotiated solution.

Reagan also urged Nicaragua to cease its militaristic policy when, in truth, the revolutionary government has decided to arm the people until the CIA's mercenaries, who launch attacks from Honduras and Costa Rica, [words indistinct] sabotage to destroy the revolution. [Words indistinct] social development in Central America when his internal economic policy has provoked one of the worst crises in the region in the last 50 years. To make things worse, his bumbling strategy [words indistinct] toward peace and the achievement of a political solution when it was precisely his government's actions [words indistinct] efforts [words indistinct] war in that neighboring country. In his speech, he insists on saying that [words indistinct] a great deal of demagoguery, cynicism and politicking.

FOREIGN MINISTRY'S VENDANA ON UN SESSION

PA251514 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 22 Sep 84 p 5

[Text] Nicaragua will not be alone in its appeal for peace at the 39th UN General Assembly, Alejandro Vendana, secretary general of the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry said yesterday, adding that "the big power to the north may resort to military force, but our country summons the law and moral force."

Commenting on the creation of the group "Friends of the President" on 18 September at a meeting of the coordinating bureau of the Nonaligned Movement, he indicated that it is made up of diverse countries (Guyana, Cuba, Argentina, Nicaragua, Indonesia, India, Iraq, Senegal, Tanzania, Egypt, Algeria, Ethiopia, and Yugoslavia) that are united in their determination to stop intervention in Central America.

He announced that the Nonaligned Movement will meet in New York at the ministerial level and intends to reaffirm its solidarity with Nicaragua and to condemn the aggression against the Nicaraguan people.

On another subject, Vendana said that as a result of the respect our country has earned at the United Nations, the Nicaraguan ambassador in Paris, Alejandro Tezano, was elected to the UN Human Rights Commission. "This is a clear rejection of the U.S. charges and slanderous campaigns against Nicaragua," Vendana commented.

In relation to the debate on the regional issue, he said it will be discussed at the Nonaligned Movement meeting and at the UN General Assembly. He said Nicaragua will reaffirm its solidarity with the people trying to achieve or maintain their independence, which is a position in keeping with the principles and positions of the Non-aligned Movement and the UN Charter, in spite of the Yankee government's rejection of resolutions adopted by this international forum.

The General Assembly will become an arena in which Nicaragua, the nonaligned nations, Latin America, and most of the nations of the world "will jointly strive to relieve the growing tension in the world and reduce the possibilities of war in different parts of the world," he stated.

ORTEGA LETTER ACCEPTING CONTADORA DOCUMENT

PA251504 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 22 Sep 84 p 5

[Commander Daniel Ortega letter to the presidents of the Contadora Group nations; date not given]

[Text] Presidents and friends: I am pleased to address you to submit Nicaragua's response to the revised Contadora Document, which was sent to us on 7 September by the foreign ministers of Colombia, Mexico, Panama, and Venezuela.

At present, Nicaragua faces a serious increase in threats and military aggression from the U.S. Government that have been intensified in recent weeks with a series of murders and kidnappings of men, and women, and children, in addition to extensive damage to our economy and the destruction of the country's scarce resources.

Likewise, the menacing presence of U.S. warships near our coasts, the direct participation of CIA mercenaries in attacks on our territory, and the incursions from neighboring countries of over 6,000 Somozist counterrevolutionaries into our country constitutes the aggression that our people continue to turn back with energy and patriotism.

The Nicaraguan Government's willingness to contribute as much as possible to achieving peaceful solutions to the grave situation prevailing in the region and the recognition that the revised document represents an exemplary effort to reconcile differences and balance the suggestions of all parties concerned has compelled us to consider this revised document as a decisive instrument to achieve peace in the region.

Therefore, we state the Nicaraguan Government's decision to accept the complete text and to sign immediately, without modification, the revised document dated 7 September and presented by the Contadora Group to achieve peace and security for all Central American peoples.

Nicaragua is aware of the need to achieve a peace agreement for the entire region as soon as possible, as proposed by the governments of the countries comprising the Contadora Group. Nicaragua is also aware that an agreement among the five Central American countries to guarantee peace and security in the region will be effective only if it includes a formal pledge from the U.S. Government. Nicaragua considers it mandatory for the United States to sign and ratify the additional protocol of the document and, consequently, immediately cease its aggression against Nicaragua in the interest of achieving the noble goals that brought about the creation of the Contadora Group.

Taking into consideration that, as expressed by the Contadora Group foreign ministers in their 7 September letter to the Central American chiefs of state, the revised document "reflects the observations and commentaries that the five Central American governments have formulated about the project" and that "this latest version is the result of an intense process of consultation and a broad exchange of viewpoints with all Central American governments," as well as the fact that the letter subsequently stated that "to negotiate means to yield somewhat in an attempt to achieve a final objective considered essential," Nicaragua considers it essential that no amendments or changes be made because, if included, they would result in endless arguments that would only slow down the achievement of peace which our people rightfully demand and urgently claim.

Presidents and friends, accept the gratitude of the people of Nicaragua for this effort on your part on behalf of peace in the region.

The Nicaraguan people support the revised Contadora Document while they continue to defend with their lives their right to self-determination, sovereignty, and independence which is threatened today by the aggressive policy of the U.S. Government.

As long as the aggression continues, the Nicaraguan Government will continue to defend its inalienable right to adopt all measures necessary to guarantee our security and territorial integrity.

Fraternally, Daniel Ortega Saavedra.

BARRICADA Lauds Acceptance

PA260045 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 23 Sep 84 p 3

[Editorial: "Desire for Peace and Sovereignty"]

[Text] Once again, our country takes the initiative in the struggle for peace in Central America. However, the fact that Nicaragua was the first country to accept the Contadora Document is not the only proof of its interest in peace. In addition, it was the only country that in the recent past presented specific proposals to achieve peace, thus showing its political boldness. This is significant. It confirms its dignity as a country under attack which is willing to maintain its accusing finger pointed at those truly responsible for the regional crisis.

It also confirms that its flexibility in the negotiations, its bold initiatives, and its ability to give rapid replies to all situations are due to its independent views, its political self-determination, and its revolutionary foreign policy based on national interest.

This does not prevent others from saying the same but it challenges them to prove it. Therefore, this new initiative by Nicaragua is another proof for the countries and governments involved in the regional problems, particularly for the country and government that is not of this region but whose actions are fully responsible for the region's political and military destabilization: the United States. If "the United States signs and ratifies the additional protocol of the document and therefore, immediately stops the aggressions against Nicaragua," as Daniel Ortega's letter [to the Contadora Group members] states, it would pass the test and show with actions that the statements of support for the Contadora efforts are not a diversionist maneuver to conceal aggression.

The challenge is there. The probable solution is also there if the acknowledgement of the Contadora members' good offices to find peace in Central America is sincere. For Nicaragua, its revolutionary government and armed people, the solution depends on the end of the activity of the aggressors but the security of its sovereignty will always depend on its defensive capacity in the face of the aggressors. Nicaragua faces the challenge. As a country under attack, the cause of peace is very dear and that is why it does not hesitate to propose peace through negotiations without permitting the questioning of its sovereignty or being prevented from exercising its defense through the means that its enemies impose on it.

Therefore, the letter accepting the Contadora Document has unquestionable patriotic, just, and sovereign significance.

'Caveat' Noted

PA251656 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 24 Sep 84

["Beyond the News Reports" feature by Carlos Chamorro Coronel: "Historical Decision"]

[Excerpt] The Nicaraguan Government believes that the revised Contadora Document is a decisive instrument for achieving peace in the region. Therefore, Nicaragua is aware of the need to conclude a peace agreement for the entire region as soon as possible, as proposed by the governments of the Contadora Group member states.

Daniel Ortega's includes an important paragraph, the key to resolving the conflict, and is called a caveat [preceding word in English] in political-diplomatic language. It states that the Nicaraguan Government believes that an agreement among the Central America countries will guarantee peace and security in the region only if it includes a formal commitment by the U.S. Government. This is the crux of the problem, because signing all of the agreements in the world will be useless if the United States does not assume a responsible attitude and act accordingly.

In addition, Nicaragua dealt a masterly blow when it made such a courageous and unexpected decision because it dashed all of the arguments being used against us. The decision also means, as stated in the document, that no amendments or modifications will be included in the text because this would only lead to endless discussions, delaying the achievement of a peace that is rightfully demanded and urgently sought by our people.

Consequently, this has been a masterful diplomatic blow for the sake of peace, since it practically disrupts the machinations of all those who seek to start a war against our peoples.

However, let us not forget that the Nicaraguan Government will continue to defend its inalienable right to adopt the necessary measures to guarantee our security and territorial integrity as long as aggression exists. We must now wait and see how and what will be the reply to this indisputable peace proposal from Nicaragua.

PSN, PPSC Leaders on Decision

PA252232 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Text] Leaders of political parties participating in the electoral process immediately termed the Nicaraguan Government's decision to sign the Contadora Group Peace Document an important step to achieving peace in Central America. Domingo Sanchez Salgado, presidential candidate for the Nicaraguan Socialist Party, PSN, said that his organization supports any action carried out by Nicaragua to help achieve peace in the region.

Meanwhile, Guillermo Mejia, vice presidential candidate for the opposition's Popular Social Christian Party, PPSC, said that his organization salutes the government's decision to sign the Contadora Document to solve the Central American conflict peacefully. Mejia also said that in his opinion, elections should take place on 4 November, and that his party agrees with the opening of a new registration period for candidates and alliances, so that the Democratic Coordinating Board can participate in the elections.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON EXTENTION OF REGISTRATION

Legal Status Returned to CDN

PA260345 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0059 GMT 26 Sep 84

[Text] Managua, 25 Sep (ACAN-EFE) -- The Supreme Court of Justice of Nicaragua today returned legal status to the three parties affiliated with the opposition's Nicaraguan Democratic Coordinating Board (CDN)

The electoral authority opened a new 7-day period, starting today, for the CDN parties to submit their candidates' lists for the upcoming elections.

A resolution of the highest court of justice of this country annuled the ruling issued on 23 August by the National Council of Political Parties (CNPP), which canceled the legal status of the three dissident parties. The Supreme Court resolved that the Social Christian Party, the Social Democratic Party, and the Liberal Constitutionalist Movement, members of the CDN, "be given the same legal status they had before 23 August 1984."

The CNPP, consulting organization of the Supreme Electoral Council (CSE), had canceled the legal status of the dissident parties for not having submitted their candidates' lists for the 4 November elections before 5 August. The CDN had nominated Arturo Cruz and Adan Fletes as candidates for president and vice president of the Republic, respectively, in the upcoming elections, but failed to register them. The CDN claimed that it did not submit its lists of candidates because "there are not sufficient guarantees that the elections will be free" in this country.

PLI's Godoy Hails Decision

PA260022 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Text] Dr Virgilio Godoy, presidential candidate of the opposition Independent Liberal Party [PLI], yesterday said that the revolutionary government's decision to extend the period for the groups that belong to the Ramiro Sacasa Coordinating Board to register their candidates is an excellent action, although he does not approve of the way in which it was done. The more political organizations that participate in the electoral campaign and the elections the more opportunities will be available to our country to resolve the entire spectrum of problems that it has been experiencing for some time, the PLI candidate said. Here are his remarks:

[Begin recording] [Godoy] This way of doing things is not what we could call a reasonable way of providing stability for an electoral process. However, it is my personal opinion that the more political organizations that participate in the electoral campaign and in the future elections, the more opportunities that will be available to our country to resolve the entire spectrum of problems that it has been experiencing for some time. Moreover, we need more than just this type of maneuver, we need to have the proper, appropriate conditions established for the electoral campaign to proceed successfully.

[Unidentified reporter] Dr Godoy, a U.S. Government official has said that he supports Arturo Cruz' position; namely, that it was not advisable to hold elections in Nicaragua if the proper conditions do not exist. What is your opinion of this position?

[Godoy] One of the major problems being faced by our country is too much foreign meddling. This is something that we have long opposed and that we will continue to oppose to the end, because we feel that Nicaraguans should resolve their problems among themselves and that neither Russians nor North Americans have any right to be involved in a matter that calls for the effort, dedication, goodwill and sincerity of Nicaraguans, who, in the final analysis, are the only ones who are harmed by those problems and even more greatly harmed by the foreign presence and foreign meddling.

Foreigners are frequently making statements about how Nicaraguans should resolve their problems. We have been proposing for months that we sit down and talk in a national political summit, in which all the political parties would be represented and in which each would outline its areas of disagreement. We would then determine our points of convergence and decide which of our disagreements can be resolved on the national level.
[end recording]

CONTRAS PAY TRIBUTE TO JEANE KIRKPATRICK

WA261015 Rome IPS in English 20 Sep 84

[By Manuel Torres]

[Text] Tegucigalpa, Honduras, Sep 20 (IPS) -- The Nicaraguan rebels fighting to overthrow the Sandinists government have paid an unprecedented tribute to Jeane Kirkpatrick, the U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations. For the first time, the Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN), the Honduras-based rebels who are the strongest of the "contra" organizations, have named a combat unit after a non-Nicaraguan, and the recipient of this unusual honor is Kirkpatrick. The FDN's "Jeane Kirkpatrick Task Force" was formed in April, and its members received combat training for four months.

The unit is now fighting in the northern Nicaraguan Province of Jinotega, bordering Honduras.

The FDN chose to honor Ambassador Kirkpatrick "for her courage, decisiveness and clear politics," FDN spokesman Frank Arana said in an interview here. "We decided to baptize one of our task forces with the name of this extraordinary diplomat."

A former professor at Georgetown University, the U.N. ambassador is one of the key figures guiding the Reagan administration's foreign policy. And she is an iron-clad opponent of the Sandinist government. As Kirkpatrick has noted repeatedly, she sees the Sandinist government as worse than the Somoza family dictatorship that ruled Nicaragua for more than 40 years. For this reason, the FDN considers her one of their main allies in the Reagan administration. It is the first time the "contras" have named a unit after a U.S. political leader. The other task forces are named after Nicaraguans, such as Pedro Joaquin Chamorro, the editor of the opposition daily LA PRENSA who was assassinated in 1978.

"It's an exception we made because Ambassador Kirkpatrick has opened many doors for us in the United States," Arana explained, "and we are grateful to her for this." Kirkpatrick "has not been prejudiced in the FDN's favor," he added. "She simply knows the threat represented by the consolidation of the Managua regime." The "contras" have run into trouble obtaining more funding from the United States, because of opposition in Congress to the "covert war" against the Sandinist government.

The FDN has stressed repeatedly in Tegucigalpa, the Honduran capital where they are based, that the support of the CIA is essential to their offensive. But with the prospects for future U.S. aid doubtful, the rebels have stepped up efforts to diversify their sources of support. Private aid is now playing a more important role, a fact that came to light with the deaths of two U.S. mercenaries Sept. 1, in a helicopter crash during a "contra" attack against a Nicaraguan military training center in Santa Clara, in the northern part of the country.

The FDN, which includes many former National Guardsmen from the Somoza era, has about 8,000 combatants, according to FDN leaders, making it the most powerful of the Nicaraguan rebel organizations. But to arm, feed and clothe those fighters, continuing aid from Washington is essential, the FDN directors say. And they see the mediation of prominent figures such as Kirkpatrick as crucial to that aid.

"We don't want to speculate on whether Ronald Reagan will win re-election," said Arana, "but we think that whoever is in office will give us his solidarity." In the "hypothetical case" that Walter Mondale wins the presidency, he added, the FDN thinks the Democrats would abandon their pledge to end the covert war, when they understand "the danger to democracy" in Nicaragua. Arana said the FDN will not make any official contact with Kirkpatrick "to pay her our tribute, but we think she already knows about it."

COMMENTARIES FIND FAULT WITH REAGAN'S UN SPEECH

TV Commentary

FL251522 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 25 Sep 84

[International commentary by Eduardo Dimas and Javier Rodriguez -- live]

[Text] [Dimas] Good morning, viewers. Today's subject is of course the speech given yesterday by U.S. President Ronald Reagan at the 39th Session of the UN General Assembly. We have said on several occasions that a president or presidential candidate, and the two roles are now combined, is political in nature. And yesterday's speech, besides being directed at the world and the UN delegates, was aimed at the people of the United States, for political purposes.

Mr Mondale, the Democratic Party's presidential candidate, noted this, saying Reagan should have given the speech 6 weeks after taking office in 1981, and not 6 weeks before the 1984 elections. This gives the impression, and we believe the correct one, that the speech was directed more at the American people than at the rest of the world.

In our opinion, Javier, the basic objective seems to be to erase the image of a government which opposed disarmament, which has opposed the opinion of the entire world, which has carried out an arms race that could be classified as savage, and which is the very government that has placed the world in its current tense situation.

[Rodriguez] It seems to me, Dimas, that the man who spoke at the UN yesterday tried to present to the world a kind of mutation phenomenon that is incredible to many people. It seems that he tried to tell the world he was not the same man who ordered the invasion of Grenada, who is ordering the invasion of Central America, which is raising tension to the maximum level in that part of the world, or the man who arranged the bombing and destruction of Beirut. It seems that Reagan is trying to make the entire world think he was for disarmament, forgetting that the disarmament talks were interrupted by the installation of U.S. nuclear missiles in Western Europe aimed at the Soviet Union. The speech had an overall political tone on the eve of the election and was part of a campaign Reagan has been waging for some time to eradicate the image of warmonger, which he has very justly earned in his 4 years in the White House. We must analyze some points in the speech on which Reagan was unable to hide his true feelings. For example, there is a passage in the speech in which he stated that the United States has now regained its power. He tried to state that the United States is going to negotiate or that it wants to negotiate, but from a position of strength. Elsewhere in his speech, for example...

[Dimas interrupts] Reagan referred, for example, to the need to reduce the possibility of using force in international relations. From the historical viewpoint, he has been the U.S. President who in recent times has most often used force as a mechanism for international relations. He has established force as a way of conducting international policy and you raise two current examples: the bombing of Lebanon and Grenada. And he talks about the reduction of that possibility.

[Rodriguez] Exactly. There are many examples of direct, close cooperation of the United States with South Africa. This allows South African aggression against the People's Republic of Angola and other African countries. There is close and extensive cooperation with Israel, which permits Israel to continue its campaign of extermination against the Palestinians. And there is the U.S. alliance with regimes opposed to the popular will such as that of Pinochet in Chile or the regime in El Salvador, where genocide, condemned by the entire world, is practiced daily. Reagan, in his speech yesterday, called the Salvadoran regime an example of democracy. There are aspects of Reagan's speech that really contrast with what he wanted to express yesterday. These aspects go against his interest in presenting himself as one who supports peace.

[Dimas] Another surrealism: What he said really goes against what his policy has been. And in the case you just mentioned about El Salvador, Reagan did not say a thing about Contadora in his speech. He spoke of diplomatic action, not military, which the United States is carrying out in Central America to resolve the problem and to seek peaceful means to solve the problems of Central America. He spoke of diplomatic action. What diplomatic action? The thousands of soldiers and the eight military bases the U.S. has in Honduras? The aid to El Salvador? The aid to the Nicaraguan counterrevolution? Is that the U.S. diplomatic action in Central America?

[Rodriguez] He even attacked Nicaragua just when Nicaragua has given real proof that it wants peace in Central America by publicly announcing its intention to sign immediately the Contadora Group's peace agreement. But the U.S. reaction to Nicaragua's decision, which has been praised by other governments, has been to criticize the Contadora agreement. For several months they were saying that Nicaragua was placing obstacles in the way of the signing of a peace treaty in Central America and that Nicaragua was the only country to oppose the signing of the peace agreement formulated by the Contadora Group. Now, when Nicaragua is ready to sign it immediately and without preconditions and is urging the other countries of Central America and the region to sign it, the United States begins to say that the agreement has a series of faults, that it is somewhat opposed to the agreement, and that Nicaragua is insincere in its proposal. The United States begins to attack Nicaragua, as Mr Reagan did in his UN speech.

[Dimas] Evidently, the United States cannot sign the Contadora agreement. They cannot support the Contadora agreement. Undoubtedly, Nicaragua struck a blow at U.S. Central American policy by accepting the Contadora agreement.

There is an element that characterizes the Reagan administration, and he mentioned it in his speech, as you said. It is the idea that the United States has become stronger militarily. Reagan said one of the important current tasks of mankind should be to seek ways to reduce the large arsenals of weapons in the world. He said there is no alternative to negotiations. That is Reagan's phrase. But who began an arms race that is incredible for any country? Who broke off negotiations by emplacing Pershing II and cruise missiles in Western Europe, if it were not the U.S. Government? Nevertheless, Reagan now says there is no other alternative but negotiations.

Everything, therefore, was an attempt to (?change) his historical military policy and to project an image of peace. A man dressed in blue did not speak yesterday at the UN, but rather a white dove. But there is a problem: When something black is painted white, it becomes gray. I believe that some gray man was talking there [Dimas laughs] at the UN.

[Rodriguez] I believe Ronald Reagan really believes he can deceive the international community with this action, this attitude, this attempt to present a new face to the UN. I believe the problem is that the world is full of tensions, great tensions, that have been revived and increased by the militaristic action of the United States, basically of this administration. The problem does not lie in grand speeches or in high-sounding phrases, it lies in facts. That is the weak point, the Achilles' heel, of the U.S. Administration.

As long as there are no facts to support these high-sounding phrases, these grand public promises of Mr Reagan, no one is going to believe them because people have come to know him during the difficult years he has been in the White House.

I believe a good way for him to show the world he is really for peace would be for the United States to stop threatening Nicaragua, the Salvadoran revolutionaries, and Cuba; for the United States to withdraw its nuclear missiles from Western Europe and enter into serious disarmament negotiations with the Soviet Union, acknowledging what the Soviets have proposed for a long time: reduction of tensions and avoidance of any kind of confrontation that could lead to a nuclear holocaust. These kinds of facts could give credence to the words Mr Reagan is trying to present in a preelection speech, in this case, before the international community.

[Dimas] As we said earlier, this speech was not for a moment directed at the international community or at the UN representatives. This speech was undoubtedly directed at the U.S. electorate because Reagan's weak point in the election process is the possibility of war, that is the fear of the American people of a nuclear war. This fear was just what Reagan tried to forestall.

[Rodriguez] And remember, the speech was given just when the world is denouncing the fact that U.S. warships are again off the coast of Lebanon and Reagan is exhorting the friends of Lebanon to continue fighting and to achieve a lasting peace, and so on, in accordance with his plans. I believe all these questions influence the way the entire international community will analyze Mr Reagan's speech yesterday at the UN.

[Dimas] Several observers agree that this was the greatest performance of Reagan's acting career. I do not agree with that opinion. I believe it was one of the worst performances of Reagan's career, and he has had many bad performances, because even he does not believe what he said yesterday at the UN. That speech had no meaning. I do not know whether you have anything more to say.

[Rodriguez] No, I believe the conclusion is that the facts will show if there is really a willingness for peace. That is what we are awaiting and that is what the entire international community is awaiting.

[Dimas] And that will not come about without difficulty. Well, viewers, thank you for your attention.

GRANMA, PRELA Comment

PA251510 Paris AFP in Spanish 1422 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Text] Havana, 25 Sep (AFP) -- During his speech to the United Nations yesterday, U.S. President Ronald Reagan tried to hide his country's responsibility for the deterioration of East-West relations, the Cuban press stated today.

According to GRANMA, organ of the Communist Party of Cuba, through conciliatory proposals to the USSR, President Reagan tried to "erase from the international community and the U.S. public the image that his government is opposed to disarmament."

For its part, the Cuban news agency PRELA states that on the eve of the U.S. presidential elections, Reagan tried to help his electoral objectives by delivering a conciliatory speech.

However, the Cuban news agency added, "the militarization of space, the unprecedented military budget, the intervention in regional conflicts, and the paranoid propaganda against the USSR in the United States are facts that cannot be erased by 35 minutes in front of UN microphones."

CIA CONDUCTS WORLDWIDE SUBVERSIVE OPERATIONS

PA251301 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 23 Sep 84

["World Events" commentary]

[Text] The U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, the world famous CIA, is an octopus with tentacles that reach throughout our planet. Using William Shakespeare's words, we can say that the world is a huge stage for the operations of the spy network.

The CIA agents are everywhere. Sometimes they show up in a country disguised as tourists. At times they use disguises of scientists and diplomats, or they can be missionaries, reporters, or photographers.

The CIA was born 37 years ago, but its creation had been planned previously. Forty years ago when the defeat of the Nazi-fascist hordes was unavoidable, in view of the unstoppable advance of the Soviet forces, the European peoples triumphantly greeted the USSR liberators. While thousands of people applauded the bravery and courage of these troops and the Soviet soldiers embraced the U.S. soldiers on V-E Day, the U.S. secret services were already drafting secret plans to fight against communism and stop the advance of the peoples that were beginning their march to liberation.

Since then, the CIA has been present in all of the destabilizing maneuvers, in intervention plans, in all of the economic and military aggressions of the United States against those states that do not yield to Washington's wishes.

The CIA does not report to anyone regarding the gigantic funds it uses for its subversive operations and it has an unlimited budget. Many persons who have been closely linked to the CIA have testified to and denounced the methods used by this spy agency. We have the statement of a distinguished U.S. columnist, Thomas Braden, who said the following:

I was involved in drafting the budget for the Freedom of Culture Congress which totaled more than \$800,000 per year. With this money a magazine that apparently published matters dealing with the congress was financed, but the truth is that the magazine was a CIA instrument even though the personnel were not aware of this.

It is known that capitalist countries' politicians receive large sums of money from CIA funds. This is how the CIA pays for the good services these people offer.

The specialists believe that the CIA has some 150,000 agents throughout the world. Since this agency reports to no one, it can pay as many agents as it considers necessary and is even capable of funding whole mercenary armies. The CIA has everything it needs to wage any kind of war. It has secret bases in other countries, has its own training centers for spies, saboteurs, and [word indistinct]. They finance subversive radio stations such as the so-called Radio Liberty and Radio Free Europe, which distort the truth and wage an international ideological war with their propaganda campaigns. To cover the expenses of these radio stations, whose broadcasts are directed at the socialist countries, the CIA invests more than \$90 million per year.

The CIA'S hand is more clearly seen in the aggression and blackmail policy they have practiced in Chile, the Congo, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Grenada, Nicaragua, and the Middle East, where they were and still are the primary promoters of war and subversion.

IMF, WORLD BANK MEET ON THIRD WORLD FOREIGN DEBT

FL251508 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1045 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Text] With serious warnings about Latin America's difficult situation as a result of its overwhelming foreign debt, and the underdeveloped world's generally precarious economic condition, the IMF and World Bank are meeting in Washington.

Attending this conclave are the finance and economic ministers from the 147 member nations of the two institutions, the directors of the world's principal multilateral organizations, and the presidents of the top private banks.

Both of these instruments of economic and financial domination are meeting in an atmosphere marked by sharp contradictions between the United States and the rest of the countries, who are indignant because of the Yankee administration's egotistical foreign economic policies.

Without a doubt, present at the meeting is the gigantic debt load of Asia, Africa, and Latin America which has now reached the \$900 billion mark.

In spite of the Third World's desperate situation, because of the increase in its interest rates, the West has squeezed the underdeveloped nations even more in the last 2 years, and taken from them more than \$90 billion in investment profits [concepto de beneficios por inversiones] and in interest from the loans.

If, to the increase of interest rates, one adds the aggressiveness of the dollar, which now is fixed more arbitrarily than ever, one can see where imperialism's policies will take the developing world.

It suffices to say that a 1-percent raise in the interest rate produces losses of \$5 billion to the developing nations, and a 10-percent rate change in the dollar increases that loss an additional \$2 billion.

Undoubtedly, the IMF and the World Bank meeting will study this situation, although U.S. Secretary of Treasury Donald Regan had proposed postponing examination of the debt problem until April 1985 at a special meeting by the IMF and the World Bank.

Maybe by then, the study would be gloomier than it is at present, and with less possibility of solution.

COMMUNIQUE ON VISIT OF POLAND'S OLSZOWSKI

AU251049 Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 20 Sep 84 p 7

["Joint Communique" on the 15-18 September official visit to Cuba by Stefan Olszowski, foreign minister of the Polish People's Republic (PPR) and member of the Politburo of the Polish United Workers Party [PZPR]

[Text] PAP -- Stefan Olszowski, foreign minister of the PPR and PZPR Central Committee Politburo member, paid an official visit of friendship to Cuba on 15-18 September 1984 at the invitation of Isidoro Malmierca, foreign minister of the Republic of Cuba and member of the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee.

Stefan Olszowski met with Jesus Montane, candidate member of the Politburo and member of the Secretariat of the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee.

Minister Olszowski placed a wreath at the monument of Jose Marti, Cuba's national hero, and on the grave of Carlos Rolof Mialowski, a Pole who had fought for Cuba's independence.

The foreign ministers of the PPR and Cuba held talks in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding and informed each other of the situation in their own countries, the prospects of cooperation between their countries in all spheres, and exchanged views on the main issues of the current international situation.

Analyzing the state of Polish-Cuban relations, the two ministers noted with satisfaction that they continue to steadily develop in line with the principles of Marxism-Leninism socialist internationalism.

The Polish side highly evaluated the Cuban people's achievements in constructing a socialist society under the guidance of the Cuban Communist Party and the militant and principled foreign policy pursued by Cuba in the international arena and Cuba's role in the nonaligned countries' movement.

The Cuban side stressed with satisfaction the achievements of the Polish people, party, and government in overcoming difficulties and in stabilizing the internal situation.

The two ministers again condemned resolutely the U.S. aggressive plans vis-a-vis the Cuban revolution and the policy of sanctions against Poland, and demanded that the U.S. economic blockade of Cuba and the policy of interfering in Poland's internal affairs be halted at once, entirely, and without any conditions.

At the same time the two ministers demanded that the Cuban territory occupied by the U.S. naval base in Guantanamo be returned to Cuba forthwith.

The two ministers evaluated with great satisfaction the results of the CEMA economic summit meeting in Moscow last June and expressed the conviction that the 39th CEMA session, which will be held in Havana in October 1984, will constitute a new and distinct measure in favor of the increasingly greater economic integration of CEMA countries for the benefit of their peoples.

The two sides confirmed their countries' determination to make unceasing efforts to strengthen the unity of the socialist community countries, which is the chief target of their foreign policies. The PPR and the Republic of Cuba resolutely condemn the dangerous and bellicose U.S. foreign policy, which continues to threaten peace in the world to an ever increasing extent, and declare that they will do all they can to avoid nuclear war, lessen international tension, and return to the policy of detente and cooperation among states with different political systems.

Analyzing the situation in Latin America, the two sides expressed their profound concern over a very dangerous development of events in Central America and in the Caribbean region, a development that has been prompted by the ever increasing U.S. military commitment in this region, and stressed the need for negotiations in order to find a political and just solution to the conflict. They also expressed their support for the initiatives of the Government of Nicaragua and for the efforts of the Contadora Group.

The two sides resolutely condemned the assistance given by the present U.S. Administration to the counterrevolutionary forces operating from the territories of the neighboring countries against the Sandinist authorities. They also condemned the mining of harbors, which constitutes an open violation of international law and the freedom of navigation.

The Polish and Cuban foreign ministers take the view that the U.S. Government should accept the verdict of the International Court of Justice of 10 May 1984, respect Nicaragua's right to sovereignty and independence, and cease any military and paramilitary actions that violate international law.

The two sides noted the steady increase in U.S. military assistance for the Salvadoran regime and stressed that the negative U.S. stand is the fundamental obstacle to solving this conflict by negotiations, as proposed by the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, the Democratic Revolutionary Front, and as demanded by world public opinion. Reaffirming their solidarity with the Salvadoran patriots, the two sides condemned the continuation and the growing number of murders committed by the death squads and pointed to the loss of lives and property as a result of the bombing carried out by the Salvadoran Armed Forces.

The Polish and Cuban foreign ministers salute the Guatemalan patriotic revolutionary movement.

The two ministers condemned the colonial domination and annexationist aspirations of the United States vis-a-vis Puerto Rico and stressed their support for the just struggle waged by the Puerto Rican people for sovereignty, self-determination, and complete independence. At the same time, the two ministers demanded that the question of the Malvinas be solved in line with the relevant UN resolutions.

The Polish and Cuban foreign ministers condemned the policy of intervention by American imperialism in the Caribbean region, as attested to by direct military aggression in the case of Grenada and by interference in the internal affairs of the region. This interference is damaging the economy of the Caribbean countries. The two ministers expressed their concern over the Reagan administration's increasingly obvious efforts to transform the Caribbean region and Central America into an object of U.S. policy and an alleged "security zone" for the United States. They again condemned the brutal U.S. invasion of little Grenada and demanded that the interventionist forces, which are occupying Grenada, be withdrawn immediately.

The two sides expressed their support for the just cause of the Panamanian people, who are trying to regain sovereignty over the Panama Canal and who continue to insist that the United States strictly implement the "Torrijos-Carter" decisions in this regard.

The two ministers drew the attention of international opinion to the dangers produced for world peace by failure to implement those decisions and stressed that the U.S. Administration bears complete responsibility for the results of such aggressive policy.

The two sides again condemned Pinochet's repressive and fascist regime and expressed their complete solidarity with the Chilean people in their revolutionary struggle for freedom during the 10th day of protest against such a shameful regime.

Analyzing the situation in Europe, the two ministers noted that the deployment of new U.S. nuclear missiles in a number of West European countries has created an additional threat to European security and world peace and stressed that concern is being caused by the revisionist trends and statements in the FRG that question the territorial and political realities created in Europe after World War II. Respecting these realities is and will always be a key condition for lasting security and peace in Europe.

The Polish and Cuban foreign ministers noted that the withdrawal of the nuclear missiles deployed in Western Europe is the indispensable condition for resuming negotiations and appealed to the United States to take specific measures to show that it is really interested in reducing and limiting armaments on the principles of equality.

The two sides confirmed their support for the proposal put forward at the Stockholm conference by the USSR and other Warsaw Pact countries that the other nuclear powers should accept the pledge, already made by the USSR, that they will not be the first to use nuclear weapons. At the same time, the two ministers spoke in favor of talks on banning antisatellite weapons, in order to eliminate the arms race in space.

The two sides declared themselves in favor of an immediate renunciation of the policy of strength and of interference in the internal affairs of other sovereign countries, because this policy is one of the main reasons for the present dangerous increase in tension in Europe and the world. They stated that support for this policy should also be renounced. The sides spoke in favor of restoring friendly relations and mutually advantageous cooperation, one which is free from any discrimination, in all spheres in line with the CSCE Final Act. Discussing the complicated situation in the Middle East, the two sides stated that it constitutes a serious threat to peace in the Middle East and the world.

The two ministers stressed that lasting peace in the Middle East can be achieved only if Israel and its allies fully recognize the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, and confirmed their support of the PLO as the only legitimate representative of these people.

The sides resolutely condemned Israel's brutal aggression against Lebanon, expressed their solidarity with Syria, which continues to repulse with determination Israel's armed attacks, and demanded that Israeli Armed Forces withdraw from all occupied territories.

The two ministers expressed their concern over the aggravating Iraqi-Iranian conflict and demanded that the two countries end their destructive war by talking and searching for a just solution.

Discussing the situation in Africa, both ministers censured the economic and nuclear cooperation between imperialism and the racist regime of South Africa, cooperation which permits the apartheid regime to conduct a policy of pressure in southern Africa and Namibia and aggression toward the frontline nations. They also expressed solidarity with the South African people fighting under the leadership of the African National Congress [ANC], its only rightful representative, for the establishment of a free, democratic, and just state.

Both sides demanded an immediate end to the illegal occupation of Namibia by the Republic of South Africa [RSA], expressing support for the rapid implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 435/78 concerning Namibia. At the same time, the Ministers expressed their support for the South-West African People's Organization [SWAPO] as the only rightful representative of the Namibian people.

The ministers firmly rejected the attempts of the United States and the RSA to make Namibia's independence dependent on the withdrawal of the internationalist Cuban forces from Angola.

Both sides firmly condemned the RSA's aggression against the Angolan People's Republic, and demanded an immediate withdrawal of the racist forces from the territories illegally occupied by them in this country and an end to aid to counterrevolutionary bands. The Polish side highly praised Cuba's internationalist contribution toward the Angolan People's Republic's independence and territorial integrity, and expressed full support for the joint declarations by the Cuban and Angolan Governments dated 4 February 1982 and 19 March 1984, on account of their significance for the achievement of complete independence and security for Angola.

Both sides expressed fraternal solidarity with socialist Ethiopia, which is not sparing efforts to develop good-neighborly relations with all countries in this region. They condemned the energetic plans of the United States and its allies to set up naval bases on the Horn of Africa.

The ministers lent support to the revolutionary processes occurring in Ghana and Burkina Faso, expressing solidarity with their independent policy in the face of pressure from imperialist forces.

Both sides expressed support for the Saharan people, also expressing support for their struggle for national self-determination in accordance with the resolutions of the United Nations and the OAU.

Both sides stressed the significance of the OAU, praising this organization's role in the struggle against neocolonialism and for the consolidation of the independence and sovereignty of African states, and also in the struggle for their socioeconomic development. They also expressed the conviction that the OAU will do everything it can to maintain the unity of its ranks.

The ministers expressed solidarity with the peoples of Vietnam, Laos, and People's Republic of Kampuchea in their struggle against the continuing aggression from imperialism and its allies, highly praising these countries' efforts in building socialism.

The ministers supported the proposal put forth at the foreign ministers conference of the countries of Indochina and aimed at transforming Southeast Asia into a zone of peace, stabilization, and cooperation, and expressed support for the PRK Government as the authentic representative of the Kampuchean people.

Both sides confirmed their support for the DPRK's just proposals concerning a peaceful unification of the country.

The ministers expressed recognition for India's independent and nonaligned foreign policy, as well as support for its activity as a leading country of the nonaligned Movement. The ministers of Poland and Cuba supported the initiatives and activities designed to transform the Indian Ocean into a peace zone, and demanded the elimination of American military bases in this region.

Both sides expressed profound concern over the serious consequences of the economic crisis in the capitalist world. They were particularly concerned over its consequences for the developing countries because of their debts to the highly developed Western countries.

They stated that this situation is a source of serious tension, and its solution requires the establishment of a new international economic order. This would encourage a thorough development of nations and would gradually lessen the inequality between countries.

During the talks, the foreign ministers of the PPR and Republic of Cuba noted with satisfaction a complete consensus of views on all the issues that had been discussed, which they described as very important for tightening the friendship and cooperation between both peoples and countries.

PPR Foreign Minister Stefan Olszowski invited Isidor Malmierca, foreign minister of the Republic of Cuba, to pay an official visit of friendship to Poland.

The invitation was accepted with satisfaction.

DOMENECH, DELEGATION END VISIT TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA

PA251718 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 24 Sep 84

[Text] A delegation headed by Joel Domenech, vice president of the Cuban Council of Ministers, left Prague for Cuba after a working visit to Czechoslovakia.

Domenech met with top Czechoslovak leaders and attended a meeting of presidents of the Czechoslovak-Cuban Joint Commission for Scientific and Technical Cooperation. He met with Josef Haman, secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, with whom he examined the possibilities for increasing cooperation in the areas of energy, geological exploration, the extraction of nonferrous metals, as well as in the fields of machinery construction, chemistry, and others.

MONTANE ADDRESSES EVENT FOR ETHIOPIA'S REVOLUTION

FL251738 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1045 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Text] Jesus Montane, alternate Politburo member, at the national event held to commemorate the 10th anniversary of Ethiopia's revolution, has said: Ethiopians and Cubans, closely united with socialism, we victoriously advance toward the future.

Montane said Ethiopia had become, in our lifetime, an impressive example of the universal value of Marxist-Leninist ideas. He added that the Ethiopian revolution was eloquent confirmation that at present no reactionary plot, imperialist maneuver, or aggressive policy can turn the path of a people who have known freedom and have a political vanguard headed by the beloved Comrade Haile-Mariam Mengistu.

Ethiopia's Ambassador to Cuba Aemero Wondimagednehu underscored that the triumph of Ethiopia's revolution resulted from a hard struggle, and sent a greeting to all internationalists who have helped before and who are now helping this African nation.

CEMA PUBLIC HEALTH STUDY GROUP BEGINS MEETINGS

FL260106 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2130 GMT 25 Sep 84

[Text] The meeting of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CEMA) that will study the creation of automated systems for public health management and planning was inaugurated this morning at the Camilo Cienfuegos assembly hall of the Ministry of Public Health [Minsap]. The USSR, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, FRG, and Cuba are participating in this scientific meeting, being held for the first time in Cuba. Different studies related to the application of computerization in the public health sector will be debated. Dr Emilio Morales, director of Automated Systems of the Minsap, who is presiding over the meeting, said at the inauguration: We want to thank all of you who, with your presence in our country, are supporting us in our attempt to develop public health management and planning.

BARBADOSADAMS ADDRESSES CANADIANS ON GRENADIAN ISSUE

FL241836 Bridgetown CANA in English 2320 GMT 22 Sep 84

[Text] Montreal, Sep 22, CANA -- Barbados Prime Minister Tom Adams went to great lengths this past week to try to convince Canadian international affairs interests here of the rightness of last year's U.S. led military intervention in Grenada to put down a leftist coup. Canada had openly frowned on the October 19 invasion by Washington and seven Caribbean states, including Barbados, Jamaica, and Dominica.

Adams, who was here for important Third World ministerial meetings on finance, devoted nearly half of an address to the Canadian Institute of International Relations to the crisis on the 133-square-mile eastern Caribbean island. Not unexpectedly, he maintained that the intervention was necessary to restore the island to parliamentary democracy and political and economic freedom after a military takeover October 19 had ended four and a half years of non-parliamentary government by a group of communists who themselves came to power in a coup in 1979. That was when Maurice Bishop's pro-Cuba New Jewel Movement (NJM) took advantage of Prime Minister Eric Gairy's departure for the U.S. on business to stage a lightning pre-dawn takeover, suspend the Constitution, and install his People's Revolutionary Government (PRG).

Said Adams: "To understand that intervention requires some analysis of events over a period of time in the eastern Caribbean which in the nature of things was not easy to achieve at a distance. Our islands, after all, are tiny, although France in 1763 thought Guadeloupe to be worth more than all Quebec, including Montreal.

"The Third World has, to the media of the developed countries, developed a unity that clearly owes more to the transience of modern newspaper and television attention and perception than to reality, Hence an attitude that Third World countries, especially small black Third World countries, are always having coups and communists, so why should others worry about them?

"But to the islands of the Commonwealth Caribbean for whom the practice of electoral politics and parliamentary democracy has become almost as natural as the act of drawing breath, the developments in Grenada since March 1979 were a massive trauma. To begin with, the sequence of events in that island has to be viewed in the wider context of the important, and yet unanswered question, facing especially the small states of the eastern Caribbean: How can our economic and political security be safeguarded in today's world?

"Independence from the United Kingdom, either directly or via the half-way house of associated statehood, thrust this question into the forefront of concern for the new states of the eastern Caribbean. On the economic side, they could no longer count on the United Kingdom (if they ever could) to come to their rescue in times of hardship. Politically they faced an increasingly complex and hostile international environment marked by the heightening of East-West tensions. The latter was clearly manifest as organised Marxist elements in the Caribbean made moves to acquire power and exert influence in the mid- and late 1970's. The unsettling effect of this Marxist thrust after 1976 is even now being felt in the islands.

"In Grenada's particular case there were other factors also, which predated the arrival of a Marxist government in that country in March 1979. The genesis of the crisis must be sought somewhat further back, in the years of the highly idiosyncratic leadership of Sir Eric Gairy, who used his undoubted electoral popularity to ride roughshod over many of the political conventions which, along with constitutional protection, go to make up democracy in any country.

"Small wonder, then, that many in the Caribbean displayed ambivalence about the violent change of government in 1979: on the one hand, relief at Gairy's departure and on the other, abhorrence at the possibility of a perhaps Marxist, certainly anti-democratic regime.

"The popularity of the new government in Grenada was short-lived. By 1981, even though there emerged a certain de facto acceptance of the Bishop regime among the majority of Grenada's Caricom partners, there was still a constant nudging by countries such as Jamaica, Barbados, and Trinidad and Tobago towards a return to the Commonwealth Caribbean tradition of choice of government by democratic means. When the regime tore itself apart and its members fell on each other, it was but the culmination of earlier disagreement and disintegration.

"The Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States asserted its rights under a treaty to which Grenada was not only a party but had contributed, insisting on a section providing for action to maintain collective security. The organisation invited Barbados and Jamaica, and then extra-regional countries to participate in joint action, with the results known to the world.

"The pros and cons of the action of the states that formed the joint forces which intervened in Grenada in October 1983 will long be debated. This action had and continues to have the overwhelming support of the Grenadian people, the people of the Commonwealth Caribbean as well as the approval of the governor-general of Grenada, by that time the sole existing constitutional authority in that country. I have no doubt that this general local approval is the most important yardstick against which the joint action should be measured. The intervention perhaps remains the most popular major event in Grenada's entire 400-year history.

"Canada's reaction to the intervention was certainly a disappointment to those of us who took part, and I suggest it should be viewed against the backdrop of its own very particular relationship with the United States of America. Some of us are convinced that the Canadian position in the matter sprang from a sort of optical lapsus: When you have been staring too long at a very bright light and suddenly have to switch your vision to another object, there is an instant when your perception becomes distorted.

"Dare I suggest that the United States is a very bright light indeed, and that late last year when Canada was called upon to see the situation in the eastern Caribbean, things were analysed in relation to America's position and postures in the world rather than Grenada's position in the Caribbean.

"At the Commonwealth heads of government conference, which took place in New Delhi in the month following the intervention, the Caribbean states which participated in the intervention undertook the task of explaining their reasons for an action that was as distasteful as it was necessary. I am quite confident that the consensus reflected in the final communique of that conference, a consensus in which the Government of Canada participated, portrays a better appreciation of the profound sense of vulnerability and insecurity which made such actions imperative. The heads of government, rightly, in my view, put the emphasis on the need for reconstruction in Grenada rather than recrimination. I think that task is reasonably well in hand.

"It turns out that the joint action has in no way spelt disaster for the Caricom integration movement as its detractors had predicted. The functional relationships between Caribbean Community states are intact.

"At the Caricom heads of government meeting last July in the Bahamas, the Grenada intervention did not emerge as a major focus of attention. Indeed the matter was hardly, if at all, raised, regional leaders finding the pressing economic problems facing the region a far greater cause for concern.

"I am also glad to say that there are certain key objectives with respect to Grenada concerning which Canada has already begun to find common ground for positive co-operation with Jamaica, Barbados, and the Caribbean states which participated in the intervention, namely, the return to democratically elected government, the reconstruction of Grenada's shattered economy, and the withdrawal of foreign forces. A word now on each of these. The holding of free and fair elections is the first steps in promoting the development of a restored democratic system of government in Grenada. Barbados has assisted in the enumeration of voters in Grenada and the preparation of a computerised electoral register and has welcomed the pledge of Canada of ballot boxes for use in the elections scheduled for later this year.

"The reconstruction of the Grenadian economy is an indispensable element in forming the foundation for the long-term security and stability of the country. Canada can play a vital role in this process. The decision to restore the Can 13-million-dollar aid programme to Grenada and the pledge of Can 7 million dollars to assist in the completion of the Point Salines Airport are viewed as positive measures by all the states now most closely concerned with Grenada's future. Such initiatives are a clear signal of Canada's commitment to getting the Grenadian economy back on a stable footing, for the reconstruction process will not be easy, and considerable assistance from outside the region will be necessary.

"The withdrawal of United States and eventually of Caribbean forces is of course an essential part of the process of re-establishing normalcy in Grenada. However, the dangers of a premature withdrawal must not be minimised. This could open the way for those who would wish to see Grenada thrown into further confusion and turmoil, and reverse the progress made since last October. United States and Caribbean forces have been invited by the interim administration in Grenada to remain at least until elections are held. In the meantime concerted efforts are under way to return the Royal Grenada Police Force (RGPF) to its former strength and to restore its reputation, both of which suffered during the Gairy years and the period of Marxist rule. Senior officers of the Royal Barbados Police Force have been seconded to supervise in Grenada until Grenadians can be trained to take over. The assistance being provided by Canada to the RGPF will hasten the point at which Grenadians will be able to take over full responsibility for law and order in their society.

"Even though the Grenada crisis called for a swift and substantial response, the lesson which must be learnt concerns the entire eastern Caribbean and is not one for the short term alone. It is clearer than ever before that the economic and military security of the entire eastern Caribbean must be placed on a much sounder footing, and I therefore welcome Canada's recent offer to provide training assistance in this country for the Barbados Defence Force, which is the core behind the regional security system of which most eastern Caribbean countries are members."

JAMAICA

MANLEY CLOSES PNP CONFERENCE, CALLS FOR ELECTIONS

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[By Paget de Freitas]

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Sep 24, CANA -- Former Prime Minister Michael Manley has closed the annual conference of his People's National Party (PNP) maintaining his call for fresh general elections, but warning Jamaicans that he offered no easy route out of the country's economic problems.

Manley, re-elected for his 16th term as PNP leader, presented the 60 candidates his party would run in an election but declared: "No way am I coming before you with any bogus promises. If you want promises put (Prime Minister Edward) Seaga there or leave him where he is."

Jamaica is in "deep and terrible trouble," Manley told several thousand supporters and diplomats packed into Kingston's National Arena. There was "no magic wand, no economic abracadabra," he added last night. "There is only an economic citadel we can build brick by brick with our own hands and our own struggle," the PNP leader said.

The ruling Jamaica Labour Party of Prime Minister Seaga, he contended, was incapable of leading that struggle or motivating the Jamaican people to greater production and sacrifice, for it had completely demobilised the country and come to power with lies and empty promises.

The democratic socialist PNP lost power here in 1980 in a general election that brought Seaga to office. The opposition party boycotted another poll called by the prime minister last December, and charged that the JLP had no mandate to rule.

According to the PNP, Seaga, by using an old voters' list, had disfranchised 100,000 young persons who had been eligible to vote since 1980, and had kept on the register the names of a similar number who had died or emigrated. Additionally, he had broken a pledge by both parties that no more elections would be called before the implementation of reforms to minimise illegal voting, for which enumeration was taking place when the poll was announced.

The magnitude of Jamaica's economic problem, Manley said, was the fact that the country would in 1985 have to pay out an estimated 830 million U.S. dollars to service a foreign debt of 3.1 billion U.S. dollars, the bulk of it borrowed by the Seaga government. Additionally, the country would have an oil bill of about 300 million dollars, and export earnings would be only about 700 millions U.S. dollars.

"If you are going (to) measure (it) by money alone, we are in deep, deep trouble, but we are not lost," Manley declared. If the country could be mobilised for a massive effort, "we can make this country move again while we struggle with the foreign exchange," he said.

Outlining some of the policies a PNP administration would follow, Manley spoke of joint partnerships in some areas with the public and private sectors, and said that dialogue was now taking place with the private sector organisations of Jamaica on such issues. His administration would also lift the present credit squeeze on working capital to the productive sector.

Manley accused the Seaga administration of "turning its back on Caricom (the Caribbean Community and Common Market)" and said that the PNP would recommit itself to the group, as it was an obvious expansion of the home market on which Jamaica could build to export to hard currency areas.

Charging the Seaga administration with focusing only on the United States as a market, he said that his party would help the private sector not only to look towards America, but other non-traditional markets, including the Third World and the Soviet Union, with which trade protocols were signed in 1979.

Manley, whose government was cold-shouldered by the U.S. because of its friendship with Cuba and its high-profile position on Third World issues, said that his party had been talking with U.S. officials on trade matters and would soon send a mission to the U.S. to investigate the prospects under the Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI).

Declaring that there was "no ideology in trade," Manley said: "We are not going to the United States ideologically, but as friends. We are not going to the Soviet Union ideologically, but as friends."

A PNP administration, Manley said, would also end the system of auction foreign exchange, return to a fixed rate for the Jamaican dollar, and prioritise the use of hard currency. While the government would not disown its responsibility for shaping policy and setting priorities, it would in the framework of its participatory model establish a national advisory council in order to enhance dialogue "to maximise cooperation, minimise friction, and optimise collective experience," he said.

ST LUCIA

COMPTON ON CBI-ASSISTED LAND REGISTRATION

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[By Guy Ellis]

[Excerpts] Castries, St Lucia, Sept 20, CANA -- A big land project, described by Prime Minister John Compton as "the most far-reaching" in the island for almost two centuries, is about to be launched here. The three-and-a-half year programme will involve the registration and titling of an estimated 28,000 parcels of land, mainly in the rural areas.

Last year the United States announced a grant of 13.4 million dollars (1 EC dollar; 37 cents U.S.) for the project under the Caribbean Basin Initiative. It was part of an overall appropriation of 21.5 million dollars for a three-component package -- the others are for marketing and banana-replanting -- to assist the St Lucia Government's programme of agricultural growth and diversification.

When completed, the registration and titling part of the programme will determine ownership and give clear title of land to hundreds of St Lucians, while at the same time resolving a problem that officials say has been one of the main hindrances to agricultural development in this 238-square-mile independent country for generations. At the moment, officials are busy putting together the final details in preparation for the mapping and registration programme due to get under way in early November.

This programme will operate through the St Lucia Development Bank (SLDB) which will make 10-year mortgages on holdings of up to 50,000 (EC) dollars in value at standard bank rates of interest for land mortgages. In cases where there is a dispute over ownership, an adjudication officer will be carried in to hear evidence at a formal hearing and resolve the problem. His decision will be final and legal.

In the long term, the programme aims to spur agricultural development to such an extent that employment in the sector would expand and the income of the island's rural farm families would be increased. This, government officials say, would be supported by structural adjustment of the agricultural sector which would lead to greater private sector investments and to a lesser dependence on a single crop economy (bananas).

American surveyors from the firm of United Aerial Mapping (UAM) will supervise the land registration and titling programme. UAM officials say that in some areas of the project St Lucia will become a trend-setter in this field. Says UAM Vice President Walter Childress: "I have worked on several projects based on space management techniques, but this is the first time space management will be used for surveying purposes."